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THE TIMES

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THURSDAY DECEMBER 7 1995

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Exams ban on calculators after maths standards fall

BY DAVID CHARTER
EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

CALCULATORS are to be banned in one of two maths papers to be sat by 11-year-olds next year because government curriculum advisers have identified a worrying lack of mathematical ability in tests taken this summer.

The School Curriculum and Assessment Authority has also urged Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, to introduce a similar ban in tests for 14-year-olds by 1997.

The results of this summer's tests will be published later this month, but officials analysing trends were worried by widespread confusion over decimal places and a lack of competence with fractions. Division is also a "particular weakness" among 11 and 14-year-olds.

Teaching methods which encouraged children to discover mathematical rules for themselves were criticised for allowing children to "waste time" trying to work things out inefficiently.

In one question this summer, 11-year-olds were asked to calculate 15 per cent of 80. Just a quarter of the 600,000 pupils answered the question correctly. A very common wrong answer was 15, which "showed a lack of basic understanding of percentages".

Nick Tate, chief executive of the authority, said calculators could not be phased out altogether because the national curriculum required their use. "What we are saying is that there has been some concern about over-use of calculators at all stages, and in particular primary school."

He added that the current papers, with some questions for calculators and some for mental arithmetic, were "difficult to police".

David Hawker, the authority's assistant chief executive, said: "Schools were concerned about how to stop children using a calculator when they shouldn't, and also to emphasise children's arithmetical skills. Many children are encouraged to develop their own methods but equally we think it is important to teach methods of solving mathematical problems so children don't waste time on inefficient methods."

The moves were welcomed by the London Mathematical Society which, in a report last month, accused schools of failing to teach the basics and leaving universities to give remedial training.

Peter Saunders, professor of mathematics at King's College London, and a member of the national society that represents university mathematicians, said: "I am pleased they are doing this because I feel calculators have probably come in at too young an age and without enough thought."

This summer's national curriculum tests were the first taken by all two million 7, 11 and 14-year-olds. Seven-year-olds took English and maths and the older children also took science. The English results do not support last week's findings by the Secondary Heads' Association that there is a dramatic decline in literacy among children starting secondary school. However, the Shakespeare element of the test for 14-year-olds was said by the curriculum authority to be "particularly unpopular". The format of analysing a particular scene or short passage brought "unimaginative responses" from pupils. At 11, there were particular weaknesses with punctuation and proper use of paragraphs. Stories "often began well and ended poorly". Spelling at all ages was good but general rules were being applied too rigidly, leading to mistakes because of the complications of English.

In science at 11, there were weaknesses in the understanding of forces. At 14, problems in the subject were often caused by lack of mathematical ability.

Leading article, page 19

Accountants liable for £65m

Firm's 150 partners must foot £34m bill

BY JON ASHWORTH, ROBERT BRUCE AND MELVYN MARCKUS

PARTNERS in one of Britain's oldest accountancy firms face bills of up to £225,000 each in the wake of a landmark High Court ruling. Binder Hamlyn was ordered yesterday to pay up to £105 million for failing in its duty as an auditor.

A shortfall in indemnity cover leaves up to 150 current and former partners sharing a bill for £34 million — thought to be the most severe personal loss ever inflicted on professionals in a British firm. Partners in a firm share in the overall profits, and are equally liable for any claims. Some 80 partners still work for the London firm: the rest have either moved on or retired.

Binder Hamlyn intends to appeal against the High Court ruling, which stems from its involvement with a takeover bid in 1990. Sources close to the firm deny the claim will result in financial ruin.

The case stems from an offhand remark allegedly delivered by one of the firm's audit partners at a meeting nearly six years ago, and mirrors the massive rise in lawsuits against professional firms in America, where up to $40 billion in claims are outstanding. There are fears that UK professionals in Britain will now become even more guarded in their dealings with clients.

Binder Hamlyn briefly acted as joint auditor to Britannia Securities Group in the period before a takeover bid by ADT, the international security group and past sponsor of the London Marathon. In an informal meeting with Britannia shortly before ADT launched its bid, the audit partner concerned was allegedly asked whether he stood by his audit of the previous year and said he did.

The judge, Mr Justice May, ruled that Binder Hamlyn had, in effect, established a benchmark value for Britannia at the meeting in January 1990. ADT later decided that it had paid too much for Britannia, and claimed that Binder Hamlyn had been negligent in providing accounts which did not give a true picture. The judge awarded ADT the difference between the audit value and the bid value — the sum of £65 million. With interest and costs, the size of the award is expected to swell to about £105 million.

Jonathan Sumption, QC, for Binder Hamlyn, told the judge that his client's insurance cover fell short of the total damages and interest by £34 million. Legal sources said this would mean that 150 partners were now liable for the shortfall. The company has dismissed as absurd the suggestion that some face ruin.

The ruling was greeted with dismay in financial circles. Michael Bolton, a former Binder Hamlyn partner, said: "If there is any suggestion of this being uninsured, then it's clearly a problem."

Partners at Binder Hamlyn's London headquarters at 20 Old Bailey spent the afternoon in meetings as they attempted to digest the contents of the 105-page judgment. Shocked staff first read about the judgment in a terse internal memo.

Arthur Andersen, which bought Binder Hamlyn in September 1994, said its partners were not affected by the ruling.

The ruling is certain to speed efforts by UK accountants to ring-fence themselves against the threat of crippling law suits. One of the country's biggest firms, KPMG, is currently turning its audit practice into a limited liability company in an attempt to protect individual partners from the threat of punitive legal action. Others, including Price Waterhouse and Ernst & Young, are actively considering the issue of incorporation.

Pennington, page 27

CHRIS LOUFTE

Vicky Wilmore, back to writing normally in school after a year of frustration and gibes about her work

Girl's bump cures mirror-writing

BY TIM JONES

DOCTORS are baffled by the case of a girl whose mysterious writing disorder has been cured by a bang on the head caused by the excitement of watching Manchester United playing an important match.

Vicky Wilmore, 10, from Gorton, Manchester, was a happy child of normal ability until she complained of a headache one morning a year ago. From that moment, she started writing everything back to front and upside down.

Although Vicky could read what she wrote, nobody else could and this caused her to cry with frustration and led to classroom gibes. Several experts subjected her to psychological and physiological tests but failed to find a cure.

Her father Brian, who is unemployed, and her mother Brenda despaired of her ever regaining her ability to read and write. As the disorder became more severe Vicky found one of her few pleasures was following on television the fortunes of her favourite football team, Manchester United.

When they played Rotor Volgograd in the Uefa Cup on September 27 the 10-year-old became so excited that she jumped out of her seat and fell back, banging her head on a coffee table.

The next day, Vicky, who also has a history of eyesight problems, went to school and started to read and write normally again.

Dr Isabella Tweedle, senior clinical medical officer for child health with the Mancunian Community Health Trust described Vicky's cure as incredible. She said: "I have never come across anything like it before and neither has anyone that I know of.

"It is still not solved because it doesn't have a diagnosis. We are delighted that everything seems back to normal for Vicky but we still want to know what caused it and we shall continue to try to find out. Doctors will be keeping a careful eye on Vicky and will also continue to assess and monitor her progress. Vicky's case, including examples of her schoolwork, is likely to be featured in learned medical journals."

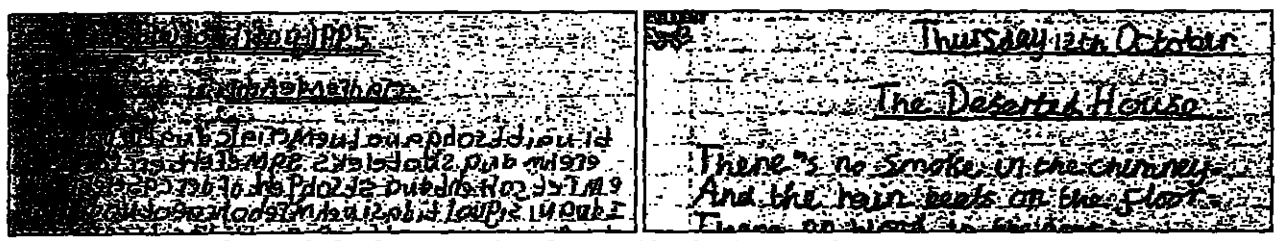
Linda Hope, deputy head of Vicky's school said: "Vicky and her family have suffered a traumatic year. She is now doing very well at school."

Dr Thomas Stuttaford of *The Times* said: "Cases where an apparent neurological condition is suddenly and completely recovered after a minor injury are not uncommon.

"There have been cases where there is a subconscious retreat from a perceived threat which will lead to disturbances of the brain affecting any of the senses — deafness often occurs — of which this could be an example. It is interesting that all the physical tests on this patient have been normal and that the restoration of her vision was so immediate. This suggests an attack of hysteria leading to disruption of the eyesight. There have been similiar cases of hysterical deafness. But it must be stated that this has nothing to do with malingering. It is a fascinating case.

"The cause may never be discovered but for a long time the patient will need careful supervision, both in regard to her physical and mental development."

United drew 2-2 with Rotor Volgograd in the match but lost on the away goals rule. Ken Marrett, the club's secretary, said: "We are delighted she has made a recovery. It was a bad day for us but it is nice to know something good came of it."



Thursday 12th October
The Deserted House
There's no smoke in the chimney
And the rain beats on the floor

Vicky's writing before and after her cure. The mirror-writing begins: "Wednesday 10th May 1995. The adventure. One day me and Clare went on a ghost train. It was scary, there was skeletons and there was monsters"

Major finds an ally in Italy for EMU delay

FROM JILL SHERMAN IN FLORENCE

JOHN MAJOR last night won Italian backing for a move aimed at postponing the creation of a single European currency.

Lamberto Dini, the Italian Prime Minister, agreed to support Mr Major at next week's Madrid summit in calling for a full study into the impact of some countries adopting a single currency before others.

The new alliance with Signor Dini, which followed an Anglo-Italian summit in Florence yesterday, marks the first concerted opposition to plans by Germany and France to go ahead with a single currency by 1999 irrespective of whether other countries are ready. Although Mr Major first raised the idea of a study at the Majorca summit in September, other countries have been slow to offer him any support.

Anglo-Italian pressure for a deeper investigation will be seen as a tactic designed to delay economic and monetary union into the next millennium. While it will delight Eurosceptics at Westminster, Mr Major will have to secure the backing of other EU member states at Madrid next week before he can flesh out any details of an inquiry.

But Signor Dini indicated that the study could go on as long as three years, hinting that hard currency states might be inhibited from starting a monetary union before it was finished.

However the chances of France and Germany being deflected from their timetable by such a study do not appear strong.

Mr Major argued that the EU should agree to a full assessment on the impact of a two-stage single currency on exchange markets, the single market, structural funds and the common agricultural policy. Less than half the 16 EU members were likely to make the Maastricht convergence criteria to enable them to go ahead with EMU by 1999, he pointed out.

Mr Major was delighted with the outcome in Florence. He in turn offered a number of concessions to Italy, in particular a separate review on the enlargement of the European community. Italy is worried about the economic impact of poorer countries joining.

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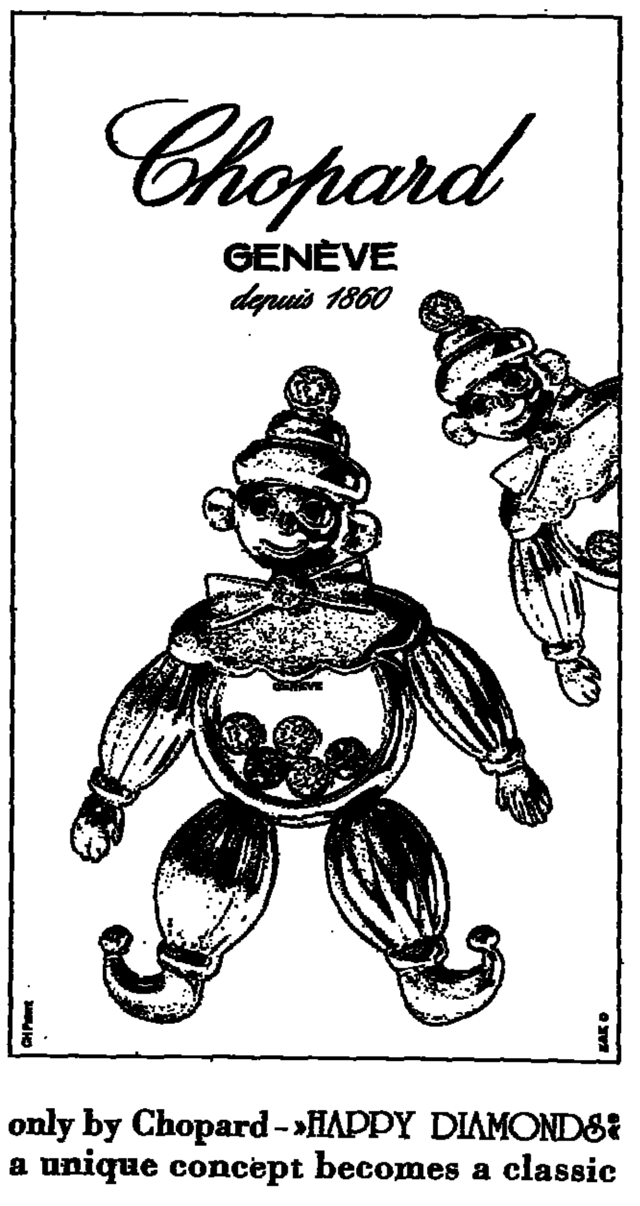

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Maxwell jury breaks for Christmas

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Maxwell trial came to an abrupt halt yesterday when the judge agreed to send jurors off for a four-week break over Christmas.

Lord Justice Phillips decided to adjourn his summing-up of the seven-month trial after the jurors told him they would feel under pressure if they were sent out to consider their verdicts before Christmas. He had been expected to start summing up next week, and the jury would have been sent out the following week.

He agreed to adjourn the trial until January 3, which means a gap of several weeks between counsels' closing speeches and the jury retiring to consider the verdict.

The decision to halt the trial came on Day 116 when the jury sent the judge a note saying they were "under pressure regarding their deliberation process". It added: "It would be preferable to commence after Christmas."

Anne Rafferty, QC, chairman of the Criminal Bar Association, said: "This is unusual . . . first for the request, and second, for the judge to accede to it."

Kevin Maxwell, 36, his brother Ian, 39, and former Maxwell executive Larry Trachtenberg, 42, deny conspiracy to defraud by misusing shares belonging to the pension fund.

Jewel charges

A 19-year-old airline baggage handler was charged in New York after the recovery of a diamond necklace and bracelet belonging to the Duchess of York..........Page 3

Chaos on roads

The icy blast from Siberia left a second day of chaos on the roads yesterday as drivers struggled to cope with snow and ice..........Page 5

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A party needs a brutal whipping system like a body needs a spine

MATTHEW PARRIS

POLITICAL SKETCH

As reported elsewhere in these pages, Tory MPs mounted a spirited protest yesterday against claimed "bully-boy" tactics by Labour whips against their own rebels. Do whips bully? Does the Pope pray? Does the Princess of Wales give interviews?

Of course what really terrifies the Tories is the evidence that the Labour Party is pulling itself together. In dogs the sign of health is a cold, wet nose; in political parties it is palpable fear among backbenchers that indicates health. A parliamentary party needs a brutal whipping system as a human body needs a spine.

I do not know whether it is true (as Tories alleged yesterday) that Labour whips hung around in packs at the entrance to the division lobby to scare off Labour rebels; but I do know that Tory whips have done this. I remember, when a backbencher myself, scurrying into the "wrong" lobby pursued by the booming voice of the late Sir Spencer le Marchant (who had tried to block my way) shouting: "Matthew, you're a —!". The word he used was so rude that we cannot even print the first letter.

To face down a rebellion by policing the lobby entrance itself, however, is a last-ditch measure. Except in emergencies, bullying is better done in the lavatories. Something has gone wrong if you haven't headed off a rebel before he reaches the division lobby door. A quiet word at the urinals, a brandy in the Smoking Room, a chat in the corridor or a whisky with the Chief Whip himself, are more likely to bring a chap to heel. Flattery worked best with me. A whip would sidle up in the Tea Room and remark that one's latest speech had been an object of praise and wonder in the whips' office, its excellence reaching the ear of the Prime Minister herself. "Oh, and by the way: can we count on your support at the Second Reading of the Slaughter of the Firstborn Bill (1985)? It's a toughie, we realise. We count on you at times like these."

"But I don't agree with the slaughter of the firstborn."

"Of *course* you don't. It's the way you hold the line when you *don't* agree that the Chief so much admires."

Sensible whips use the carrot more than the stick. As a whip during the Maastricht rebellions, the fearsome 17-stone Tory, David Lightbown, often heard his name linked with backbench whimpers about intimidation, but Lightbown himself is said to have retorted: "I don't just smack them. I kiss them better afterwards, too."

I was *never* hit by a whip. I came closest with Walter Harrison, Labour's ruthlessly effective Deputy Chief Whip during Michael Foot's leadership of the party. I had been causing trouble for Sheffield Council, who were promoting a private Bill on whose committee I sat. Walter cornered me first in the lavatory downstairs. Baring his teeth he told me that if I did not co-operate, the Labour Party would make my life difficult at Westminster for the rest of my career.

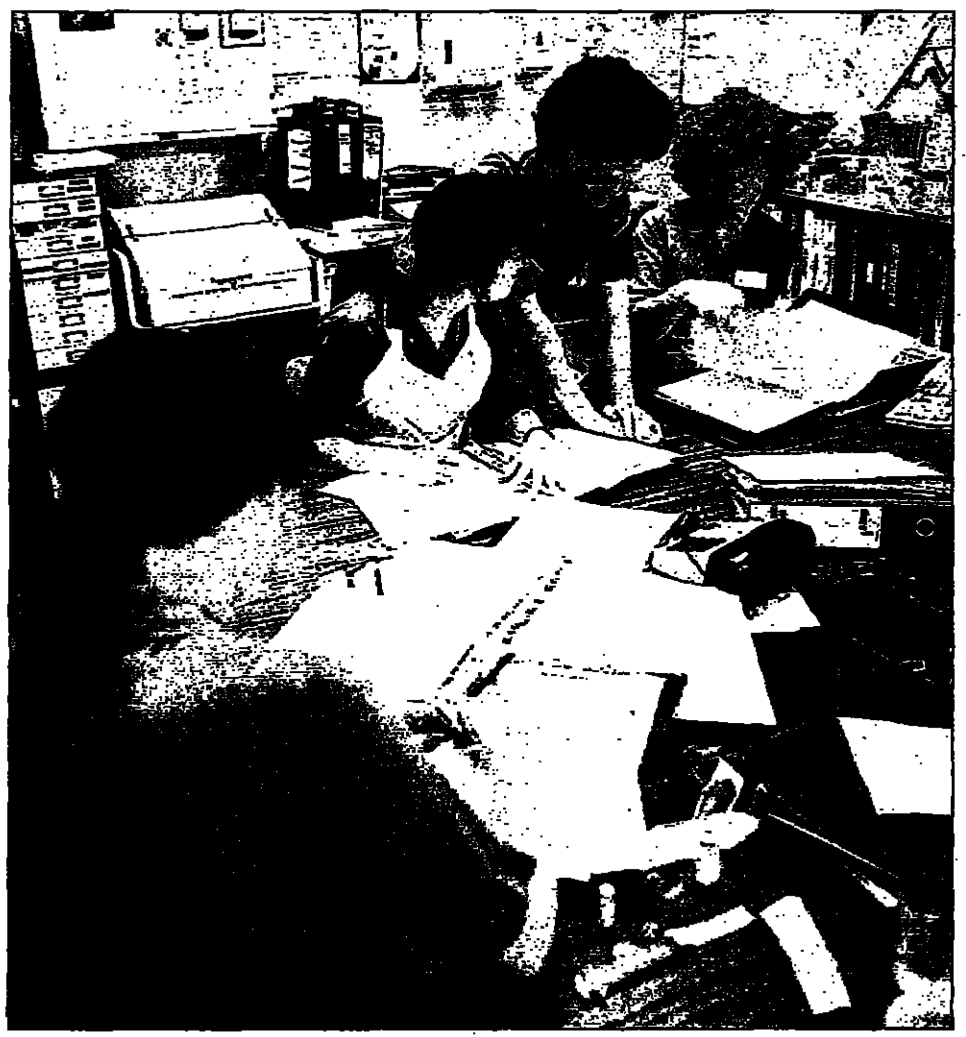
Next he confronted me in the Strangers' Bar. In the presence of Tory colleagues, he told me I was "a little shit" who was ignorant of the unwritten rules of private Bills. Finally, I was backed against a wall in the Dining Room corridor and, Walter's face about three inches from mine, told in tones pregnant with menace that there would come a day when the Labour Party would have it in their power to hurt, or to shield, me. The choice was mine.

Sheffield got their Bill. If Labour wins the next election, Tony Blair is going to need a Walter Harrison. Tory allegations that Labour whips are learning how to be whips bode well for a Blair government.

Speaker's strong arm, page 10

Barts may be saved by joint private and public funding

By Jeremy Laurance, Health Correspondent



Staff at the historic hospital, which is due to close early in the next century

ST BARTHOLOMEW'S hospital in the City of London, one of the oldest in the country, may escape closure by becoming a charitable hospital, the first to treat acute patients since the National Health Service began.

The hospital, the most famous casualty of the Government's NHS reforms in London, is due to close early in the next century. A scheme to retain it is to be discussed at a private meeting hosted by the King's Fund, the independent health policy think-tank, next week.

The meeting on Thursday, to be attended by representatives of the Corporation of London, a private health company and the Royal London Hospitals Trust which currently manages Bart's, will consider a proposal to keep the hospital going with a combination of state, charitable and private funding.

One senior figure involved in the plan said it would provide a model of collaboration between the public and private sectors. "It reopens the case against closing Bart's in a very elegant way," he said.

A 100-page research report commissioned by the King's Fund to examine whether such a project could be viable will be presented at the meeting.

The options include retaining a community hospital and accident and emergency service on the site, with an occupational health service and complementary medicine. Some NHS services would be retained.

Robert Maxwell, chief executive of the King's Fund, said: "There is no lack of candidates for the site. There is one private medical provider and one charity interested. The City wants an occupational health service and the Barbican wants a community hospital.

The question is how well all these would fit together. Would it be an insitution with a future or just a jumbled series of bits?"

The proposed new hospital is likely to appeal to ministers anxious to salvage political capital after the decision to close Bart's provoked an unprecedented campaign of opposition.

This culminated in a damaging Tory backbench rebellion which is blamed for unseating the former Health Secretary, Virginia Bottomley.

The closure of Bart's was signalled by Mrs Bottomley more than a year ago, after the Tomlinson review of London's health services was published in 1992. This said it could not survive in the internal NHS market.

The accident and emergency department was closed last January and the remaining departments are due to transfer to the Royal London Hospital, Whitechapel, east London, over the next five years. Last summer, Mrs Bottomley appointed a task force under the chairmanship of Sir Ronald Grierson to consider future uses for the Bart's site.

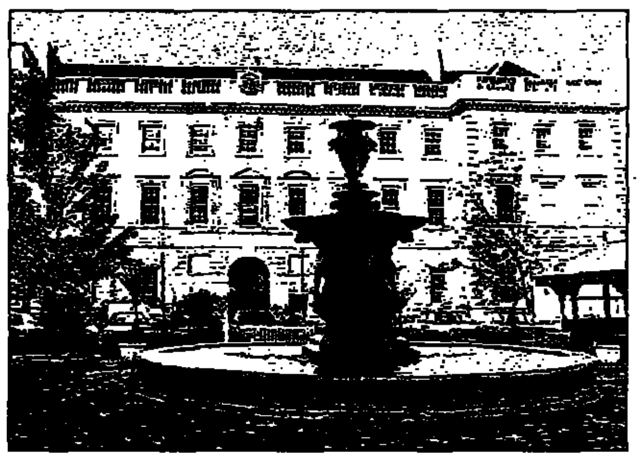
A key advantage of the King's Fund plan is that it would require little change to the buildings. The report is understood to estimate that the cost of establishing the hospital would be less than the cost of transferring NHS services to the Royal London.

An earlier proposal that the London School of Economics should move onto the site has been suspended because of the expense of refurbishment. A suggestion for an Institute of Ageing, put forward by the Health Department, could be accommodated alongside the new hospital.

The viability of the project depends on whether the building is sold or offered at a notional rent. Its sale is thought difficult because it is Grade I listed, limiting the possibilities for redevelopment.

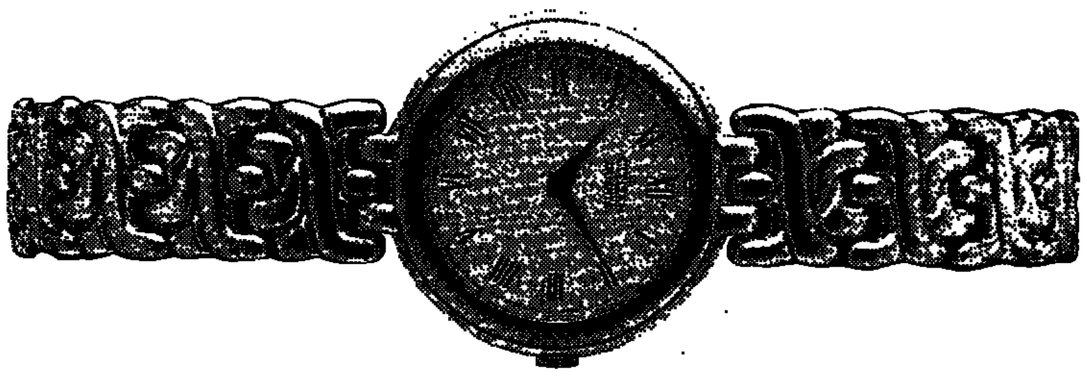
"The easiest use for the buildings must be something similar to what it has been used for up to now. Some of them are in excellent shape," said Mr Maxwell.

The hospital has a state-of-the-art day surgery unit and operating theatres refurbished at a cost of £15 million were opened two years ago.



St Bartholomew's at Smithfields in the City

Body and Mind, page 16



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NICKEL IS PRESENT IN THE WATCH MOVEMENT AND BRACELET HOLDING PINS, BUT THESE DO NOT CONTACT THE SKIN UNDER NORMAL USE

Opt-out inquiry keeps pressure on Blair territory

By Andrew Pierce

AN INVESTIGATION was ordered by the Government yesterday into complaints of intimidation at an opt-out ballot at a comprehensive school in Tony Blair's Sedgefield constituency.

Allegations of dirty tricks have flown thick and fast on both sides of the opt-out argument after parents voted two-to-one against Hurworth School cutting ties with Labour-controlled Durham County Council.

The Tory chairman of the governors was at the centre of the controversy last night after it emerged he made claims that the 35-year-old school might close unless it became grant-maintained. . Labour supporters say Don Mason, a county counillor, attempted to force through opting-out to embarrass Mr Blair.

Durham County Council was accused by Eamonn Farrar, the headmaster, of spreading false information about a threat to the school bus service if it opted out.

Neither the headmaster, the governors, nor the county council had sought an inquiry. Mr Farrar said last night: "We want to put this behind us."

The county council was commended by the Government for the way it conducted a previous opt-out ballot. The result of the latest vote was announced on Tuesday. Controversy spilled into the Commons when Conservative MPs accused Mr Blair — whose son attends a grant-maintained school — of co-ordinating a campaign of "intimidation and browbeating".

Mr Farrar has written to Mr Blair and John Major to complain about intimidation, and said: "Tony Blair is an honourable man. He is nothing to do with it. I will be voting for him at the election. It's wrong for the Tories to drag him into it."

Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, kept up the pressure. In a letter last night to Mr Blair she said: "I am sure you must be concerned by these allegations, particularly since you are such a strong supporter of grant-maintained schools."

A Labour spokesman said: "Tony Blair has no evidence to stand up claims of intimidation. If there were such things going on, he entirely disassociates himself from them."

Mr Mason, chairman of the governors, denied seeking to embarrass Tony Blair and said: "We have never said the school would close if it did not opt-out — only that there is the possibility that it might."

A council spokesman said: "There never was any threat of closure."

Carey urges an end to Islamic divide

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, said yesterday that the relationship between Christianity and Islam was "potentially one of the great fault lines running between and through civilisations". Dr Carey, addressing a conference in London, said the dialogue between Christianity and Islam was critical for the future of mankind "so that incipient hostility based on fear is disarmed". There were "recurrent tremors reminding us that destruction can burst forth again where such deep divisions lie beneath the surface crust".

Dr Carey said a surge of religious faith had swept through much of the Middle and near East and the northern Mediterranean, helping to topple atheistic communist regimes, and there had been extraordinary religious growth in Africa, South America and the Far East. All this made the death-of-religion theory "seem rather silly", he said.

West to lodge appeal

Rosemary West's solicitor announced that she is to appeal against her conviction on ten murder charges. Leo Goatley said: "We want to have another look at the similar-fact evidence which was used in the trial and its admissibility. We also want to review the arguments on severance which were put before the trial judge, and we are also concerned about the chequebook journalism and the payments to witnesses and the effect that had on their evidence." He said West, 42, was waking up in Durham jail each morning "with feelings of frustration and anger".

Doctor barred for rape

A doctor was struck off the medical register after being found guilty by the General Medical Council of raping and attacking a mother of two he had lured to a hotel bedroom. After the decision, it emerged that Dr Michael James Bowles, 43, had already served 13 months in a Canadian prison for the offence. Dr Bowles, of Harrow, northwest London, had denied the offences at a medical conference in Quebec more than five years ago.

Deportation delayed

Immigration officials have postponed for two weeks the removal of a Nigerian asylum-seeker who says he faces torture and death in Lagos. Abiodun Igbinidu, 25, was to be deported on Saturday but his return has been delayed while the Home Office considers representations including one from the former Foriegn Secretary Douglas Hurd. Mr Igbinidu, an activist in the Campaign for Democracy, is said to have arrived in June on a fraudulent passport.

Lord Matthews dies

Lord Matthews, right, who began working as a paper boy and retired as a millionaire newspaper owner, has died at his home on Jersey. Ian, the former Express Newspapers chairman's only son, and daughter-in-law Helen were with him when he died on Tuesday night, his 76th birthday. His wife Joyce died in October of cancer. He made his first fortune in property and shipping. Obituary, page 21

UVF trio found guilty

Three men, including a loyalist politician, were found guilty yesterday of conspiring to run guns to the outlawed Ulster Volunteer Force. Lindsay Robb, 28, of the Progressive Unionist Party, was found guilty at the High Court in Glasgow of conspiring to further by criminal means the purposes of the UVF. John Johnston, 49, from Falkirk, and William McArthur, 41, from Bonnybridge, were also found guilty of conspiracy. They will be sentenced in a fortnight.

Briton feared dead

British officials in Lusaka believe a 53-year-old Briton who disappeared from the Zambian capital 19 days ago has been killed after being abducted in a car hijack, and that his body has been eaten by wild animals. Dylan Aspinwall's pickup truck was found 90 miles east of Lusaka on a dirt track a mile from the main road. Mr Aspinwall, a bachelor, worked as a British aid officer in education in Zambia for 19 years until he retired to live in Lusaka three years ago.

Vodka advert banned

A vodka advertisement showing a scantily dressed blonde woman and the words "give it to me raw" has been banned by the Advertising Standards Authority after complaints from the public. The authority criticised MDT, which makes Raw Spirit vodka, for using "sexually violent images". The firm has agreed to remove posters from Tube trains and buses but is resisting the order to remove them from billboards. The authority says they will be torn down.

Loyalist appeals over terrorist beatings

By Nicholas Watt
Ireland Correspondent

A LEADING loyalist yesterday called on paramilitaries to end punishment beatings in Northern Ireland after government figures showed that the number meted out by the IRA and loyalists had risen since their ceasefires.

John White, of the Ulster Democratic Party, which has links with the Ulster Defence Association, said people should report alleged offenders to the police rather than turning to paramilitaries for "instant justice".

The Northern Ireland Office said that terrorists on both sides carried out 223 punishment attacks in the first 14 months of the IRA ceasefire. That compared with 203 attacks over the same period in the run-up to the ceasefire in August last year.

Republicans carried out 148 of the latest attacks and the loyalists 75. The terrorists, who cannot use firearms under the terms of their ceasefires, attack their victims with baseball bats and iron bars. Doctors say that the damage can be worse than in kneecappings by bullet.

Before the IRA ceasefire, 63 of the 71 assaults by republicans were shootings. Loyalists carried out 132 punishment attacks, including 95 shootings, 13 of which were carried out between the IRA ceasefire on August 31 last year and the loyalist ceasefire on October 13. The figures were released on Tuesday night by Baroness Miller, who was standing in for Baroness Denton, the junior Northern Ireland Minister.

IRA and loyalist terrorists have stepped up punishment attacks as they try to maintain control over their areas. The terrorists claim that they attack "anti-social elements" which include alleged joy-riders, petty criminals and sex offenders. Many victims have suffered severe injuries.

The latest figures prompted Mr White, the UDP prisons spokesman, to pledge to do all he could to end the attacks. However, he said that the attacks would continue as long as people turned to paramilitaries for summary justice. Communities often still supported attacks.

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New York baggage handler released on $75,000 bail after stolen bracelet and necklace are found

Five diamonds missing from royal jewellery

From Quentin Letts
in New York

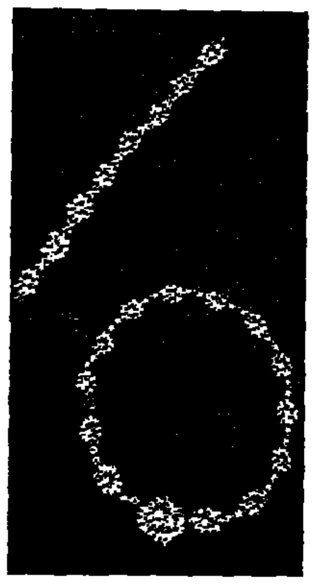
NEW YORK'S second most senior FBI man put it a little strongly yesterday, but the Duchess of York's wedding jewellery is back in safe hands. "I am very pleased to say that we have recovered the Crown Jewels," said James Kallstrom, assistant director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The jewels, a 1986 wedding present from the Queen, were found in the possession of an airport baggage handler, Gilbert Terrero, 19, who was released on $75,000 (£48,700) bail by Brooklyn Federal Court last night.

Five diamonds remain missing. They were prised from one of the two pieces of jewellery, a 65-carat necklace that was found at Terrero's New York address. The matching item, a 20-carat bracelet, was found in his locker at JFK airport.

They were swiftly examined and verified by a New York diamond dealer, Laurence Krashes. He said the necklace had been broken in two places, while the bracelet had one break. "I saw a number of settings that had been twisted and broken," he said. "When I tried to reassemble the necklace I knew that the pattern was broken. It was obvious the person had tried to break it with his hands."

Agent Kallstrom, himself flashing a high-carat smile, posed next to the jewels at the FBI's Manhattan headquarters. They had been placed on a plump, velvet cushion, alongside an FBI badge bearing the bureau's escutcheon. Mr Kallstrom said that the jewels were stolen from a locked handbag in the hold of a British Airways Boeing 747 on which Jane Dunn-Butler, a lady-in-waiting to the Duchess, was returning to London. The Duchess had entrusted her assistant with the jewels and had herself returned to London on Concorde. The jewellery was made by Garrard & Co of London and, in the absence of an official valuation, estimates of its worth have varied from £60,000 to £250,000. It will remain in America until the investigation is complete and preoceedings are over, possibly months away. The necklace is made of 12 floral clusters and set in gold. The missing stones formed part of an attaching link.



The recovered jewellery as displayed by the FBI

Terrero, of 133 Avenue, Ozone Park, in New York's Queen's borough, has been charged with tampering with an interstate shipment, for which the maximum penalty is 10 years in prison. He works for Hudson General, a loading company contracted to British Airways. Hudson refused to comment yesterday, and would not say how long it had employed Terrero.

Ozone Park is a mouldy neighbourhood, where crime is widespread and even the primary school kids seem to have an attitude that matches their moustaches.

Terrero, who is of Puerto Rican and Dominican background, arrived at court and sat nervously in a sweatshirt and jeans awaiting his hearing before Federal magistrate Marilyn Dolan-Go. His family talked about the case and even showed reporters the shed at their home where the necklace was found.

Terrero's father was reported as saying his son told him he had discovered the jewellery on the floor of an aircraft and did not know to whom it belonged. According to reports, his parents said he only realised the enormity of what had happened when he saw FBI agents questioning colleagues.

His father said Terrero called him at home asking him to get a relative to hide the necklace in the garden shed, saying he was going to return it later that day.

His parents Gilberto and Ubalda Martinez arrived in the court at 1pm waiting nervously for their son to appear. Their daughter Wanda, 24, and their other son Mike, six, were not present. The couple have been married for 25 years.

The investigation was started by the British Airways security team who interviewed staff and eventually pinned their inquiries to Terrero.

Police believe he took the jewels on an impulse. The alleged theft was "spontaneous" and is believed to have happened moments before the 747's cargo doors were sealed.

The Terrero family claim that he had been on the point of surrendering the jewels to the police, having somehow come across them, was dismissed by Mr Kallstrom as an unlikely version of events.

While shocked that the items had been damaged, the Duchess was delighted that they had been found. Her spokeswoman said: "She is totally overwhelmed by the incredible effort of the security forces and British Airways. The Duchess is particularly impressed by the speed with which these forces have acted and the co-operation shown by the two countries working together." Mrs Dunn-Butler, 28, was staying with the Duchess last night at her rented home near Ascot. She said: "I was devastated to discover the loss of the jewels on Monday night. Her Royal Highness has been incredibly supportive the last 36 hours and I am immensely relieved."

The Duchess said Mrs Dunn-Butler was getting over the theft. "I am absolutely delighted that the jewels are back. I have been very impressed with security on both sides of the Atlantic. The way they have handled the whole thing has been absolutely brilliant. Jane is bearing up OK, with lots of cups of tea."

RICHARD POHLE

Agent Kallstrom claiming the glory for the FBI at a press conference yesterday after the Duchess of York's jewels were found in New York

Gilbert Terrero: cargo handler at JFK airport

British scientist killed in US hotel

From Giles Whittell
in Los Angeles

A PROMINENT British scientist has been found strangled in a hotel room in San Diego, possibly the victim of a robbery.

Professor Stanley Runcorn, formerly head of physics at Newcastle University and a member of the Royal Society, was found dead in the Hotel San Diego on Tuesday morning. His body was discovered by chambermaids at 11.30am, police said. He is thought to have died several hours earlier.

A San Diego Police Department spokesman said the room had been ransacked and officers were still searching for clues. No suspects had been identified. While police provisionally gave strangulation as the cause of death, an autopsy was due to be held.

Professor Runcorn, 73, a geophysicist and pioneer in the field of plate techtonics, sat on the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Biosphere 2 "space habitat" experiment in Arizona from 1991 to 1993.

He was head of physics at Newcastle University at the time, and subsequently moved to the University of Alaska at Fairbanks. Winning an international reputation for his work in nuclear physics, he was on a lecture tour at the time of his death.

Runcorn: on lecture tour when he died

Calling people gay is not libel, QC tells jury

By A Staff Reporter

IT IS not defamatory to say someone is homosexual in this day and age, a QC told the jury in the David Ashby libel trial today. Richard Hartley, QC, for *The Sunday Times*, which is being sued over an article published in January last year, opened the newspaper's case by telling the jury that they lived in more enlightened times.

He accepted that the newspaper had also alleged that the 55-year-old MP for North West Leicestershire was a liar and a hypocrite in denying that he had left his wife, Silvana, 52, because of a homosexual affair with Dr Ciaran Kilduff, 32.

"You may think that's defamatory but you have to consider whether people do have mid-life crises and have to say to their wives 'I'm sorry but I now find my homosexual leanings are too much and I find I'm homosexual, not heterosexual'," Mr Hartley said.

Mr Ashby is claiming damages over allegations that he shared a double bed with a man friend during a holiday in Goa at the end of 1993.

Times Newspapers Ltd and Andrew Neil, former Editor of *The Sunday Times*, deny libel. They accept that Mr Ashby did not go on holiday to Goa with a man but assert that he was and is having an affair with Dr Kilduff. Mr Hartley said that from the point of view of proving the "sting" in the case, it did not matter that the newspaper was wrong about Goa.

The two men had admitted sharing a bed at the Chateau Tilques in northern France in January last year, on a night when 33 of its rooms — including triple-bedded, twin and single rooms were vacant. "In our submission that really proves this case. On that alone there is enough for you to infer that there was a homosexual relationship between these two men of quite different ages," Mr Hartley told the jury. Earlier, Mr Justice Morley asked Dr Kilduff before he left the witness box whether he did not think it was "extraordinarily stupid" to go to France with the MP when he was aware that Mrs Ashby and Mr Ashby's sister Lynne were accusing them of a homosexual relationship.

Dr Kilduff: "In retrospect it was obviously a bad decision and one which I regret. But one very often makes bad decisions and it's easy to be clever after the event."

The jury heard a taped conversation between Bobby Sheridan, the American homosexual partner of Mr Ashby's late brother, Brian, and Andrew Gallagher, a private detective employed by *The Sunday Times*. On it, Mr Sheridan called Lynne Garling, Mr Ashby's sister, "cuckoo", and said Silvana Ashby was a "bitch" who hated him and Brian and refused to allow them into the house.

He said he honestly did not know if Mr Ashby was gay. "Most Americans think that Englishmen have a little bit more of a gentle nature which makes them soft. I love that. It would not surprise me if every Englishman is gay." The case was adjourned until today.

Silvana Ashby: refused to allow gays in house

Teenager admits supplying knife

A TEENAGER accused of taking part in a gang mugging of the husband of the Director of Public Prosecutions broke down in court yesterday after admitting he had supplied the knife used in the attack.

Bernard Enerio, 17, also told the jury that, as John Mills was confronted by other gang members, he stepped forward and punched the 57-year-old businessman.

"I just don't know why," he said in a barely audible voice.

Inner London Crown Court has been told how Mr Mills, whose wife is Barbara Mills, was set upon by a six-strong gang after parking his Audi 80 near his home in Regent's Park, London. Mr Mills was robbed of his wallet containing £100 and credit cards. He told the jury he was left "dripping with blood" after the double-bladed knife was thrust six inches into his stomach.

Enerio, of South Norwood, southeast London, denies causing grievous bodily harm with intent and robbery. He has admitted possessing a bladed weapon. The teenager, who works in a Burger King restaurant, said he had met up with the other gang members an hour or so before the attack.

He named the knifeman as Gregory Jananto, and the others as Eduardo de la Cruz, Wayne Lewis, Colville Angol and Learco Chindalo. Enerio, who is the only one before the court, told the jury he had stolen the knife used to stab Mr Mills from a friend the week before.

When Jananto, a "nutter" who scared him, asked him for the weapon as they walked along a street, he handed it over straight away. "I didn't think he was goihg to use it," he said.

They had blocked Mr Mills's path. "I then stepped forward and punched the man." After the attack Jananto handed him back his weapon.

The trial continues.

Samurai sword attacker fined £75

A MARTIAL arts fanatic who dressed as a Japanese warrior and wielded his Samurai sword at police was fined £75 yesterday. John Kirkham had claimed his mind was blank and he could not be held responsible for actions sparked by his wife confessing that she had fallen for another man.

An Old Bailey jury had taken more than nine hours to clear Kirkham, 42, of attempted wounding with intent to cause greivous bodily harm. They had already cleared him of attempted murder. He was found guilty of affray and two counts of damaging property, namely two police dogs he wounded with his sword.

The former Grenadier Guardsman, of Grange Road, Guildford, Surrey, was given a two-year suspended sentence and supervision order, fined £75 and ordered to surrender his martial arts equipment so it could be destroyed. Judge Hutchinson told him: "This is a very unusual case. What you did was terrifying. I accept that you do not have memory of the event."

The court had heard that Kirkham, a black belt in five martial arts, had held his wife Helen hostage in their home before emerging to tell police: "The killing is going to start now." He swirled his sword at two policeman, who avoided injury, and wounded two police dogs before police were able to disarm him. In court, he was said to have suffered from "hysterical dissociation".

He is now reconciled with his wife. Outside court, she said: "I am very happy. He deserved to get off. We are going to have an excellent life together."

Cheesemaker savours victory at last

By Michael Hornsby
Agriculture Correspondent

ONE of Scotland's best known cheesemakers is celebrating victory today in a long legal battle to save his gourmet product from being condemned as unfit to eat.

For the past year Clydesdale District Council has been trying to destroy seven tons of Humphrey Errington's Lanark Blue cheese, worth £27,000, on the ground that it was contaminated with the bacteria *Listeria monocytogenes*.

The cheese, whose admirers include the Prince of Wales, is made from unpasteurised ewes' milk on Mr Errington's farm at Walston Braehead near Dunsyre, Strathclyde. The council also sought to get Mr Errington to withdraw all stocks of the cheese and to stop sending out fresh supplies.

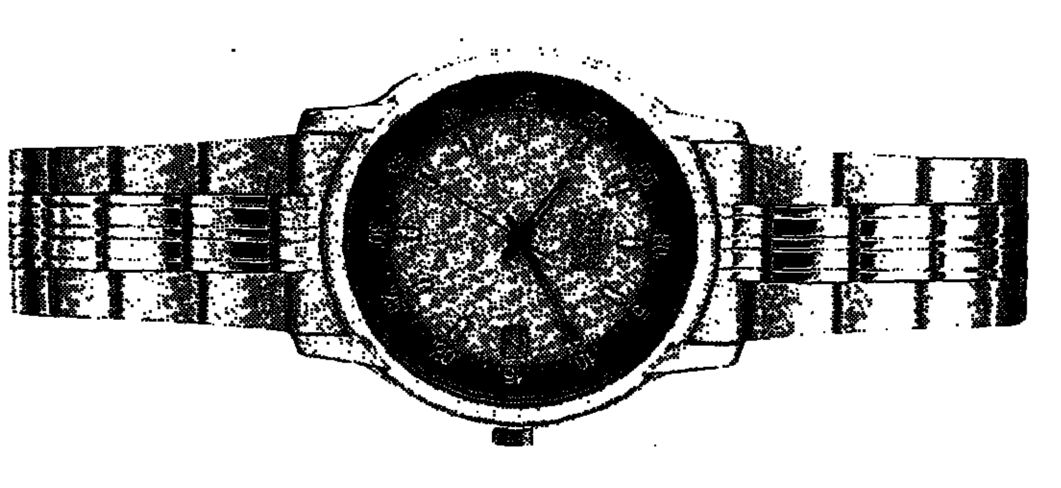
In a 32-page judgment released today, the Lanark Sheriff says he has found no evidence that the cheese is unfit. He also strongly criticises Clydesdale District Council for "confrontational" tactics and accuses the Scottish Office of colluding in an unjustified prosecution.

Mr Errington said: "I am considering a complaint to the ombudsman alleging maladministration by Clydesdale and possibly asking the Audit Commission to surcharge councillors for their behaviour." The case against Mr Errington was brought under the 1990 Food Safety Act, which contains no provision for payment of his legal costs. He faces a legal bill of about £120,000, but hopes the ombudsman will recommend that the Scottish Office should compensate him.

Mr Errington said the verdict affected all specialist farmhouse cheesemakers. "In effect the sheriff has accepted that there is nothing surprising in finding low levels of listeria from time to time in cheese made from unpasteurised milk and that it is completely harmless.

"This prosecution case should never have been brought. It has been through no less than five courts."

Any light makes hands work.



At least it does with the new Citizen Eco-Drive.

A photo electric cell behind the dial converts any light into electric power, so you'll never have to worry about changing the battery.

Through normal daily wear the watch absorbs enough light to keep it charged and accurate. As little as five minutes of daylight is enough to keep it going for 24 hours. When fully charged, the Eco-Drive will keep perfect time for about seven days, even locked in a dark drawer.

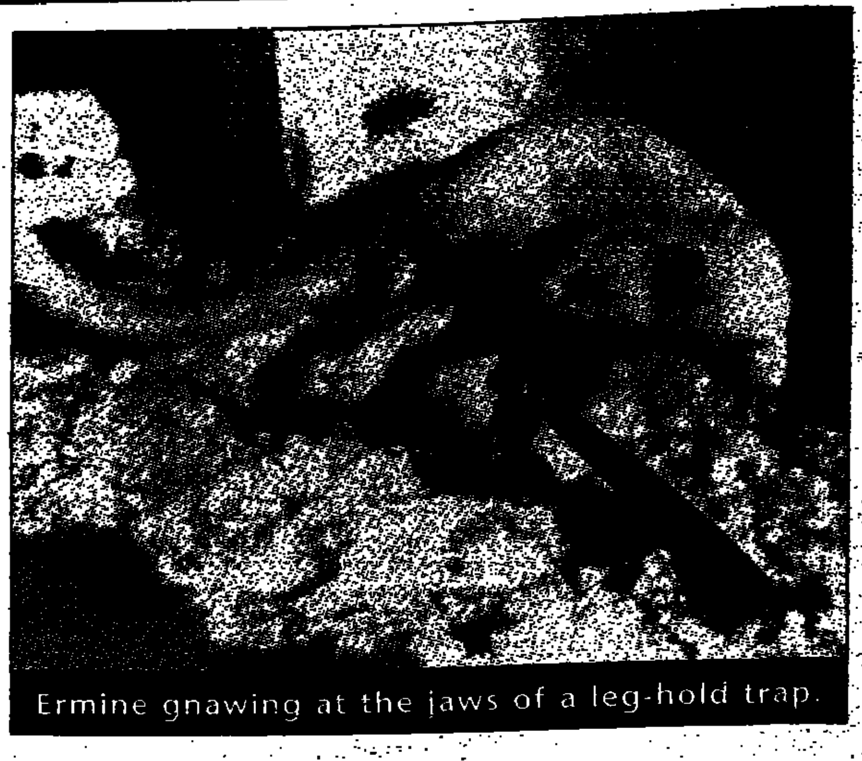
Eco-Drive watches are priced from £89.50 to £195 and come with a three year guarantee. The model illustrated here is £110.

You might think such an amazing technological breakthrough by Citizen is a wind up. It's not.

CITIZEN
TIME WELL SPENT

Raccoon fatally caught in a leg-hold trap.

Bobcat captured in a steel jawed leg-hold trap.



Ermine gnawing at the jaws of a leg-hold trap.

Will the world's fur trade prove as successful at twisting arms as they are at breaking legs?

In 1991, the Council of the European Community took a decision which was applauded around the world.

With millions of animals dying an agonising death in leg-hold traps, the EC banned their use among member states from January 1st, 1995.

The EC Council at the same time voted to ban fur imports from countries which used the same barbaric methods of killing.

Tragically, only the ban affecting member states has so far been enacted.

Due to pressure from the main trapping nations (Canada and the USA) the European Commissioners decided to postpone the ban on imported furs until January 1st, 1996.

And now, the same pressure has apparently persuaded them to propose postponing the ban again (possibly even lifting it altogether).

The fur trade cannot be allowed to get away with it.

Environment Secretary John Gummer has clearly stated that . . . "the UK Government has made it absolutely clear that it's not prepared to have a postponement of this sort" (Today, BBC Radio 4, November 18th, 1995).

Please write now to your MP at the House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA and to your Euro MP at the European Parliament, Brussels B 1049 Belgium, urging them to stand firm against any proposals by the European Commission to delay or scrap the fur import ban.

Mr Gummer deserves all our support.

Or January 1st, 1996 will be the start of just another miserable New Year for millions of animals.

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respect For Animals

RSPCA

WSPA WORLD SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANIMALS

URGE YOUR MP AND EURO MP TO STAND FIRM AND SUPPORT THE EC FUR IMPORT BAN.

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Motorists trapped on M25 by Siberian blast spend night drinking coffee in packed service station

Abandoned cars spread misery on frozen roads

By Michael Horsnell

THE ICY blast from Siberia left a second day of chaos on the roads yesterday as drivers struggled to cope with snow and ice.

As the worst weather of the winter spread north last night, a woman was killed when her car skidded off the road in South Wales. Up to three inches of snow fell in the South East, where the worst affected areas were Kent and Surrey. More snow is expected today.

Drivers on the M25 were hampered by ice, snow and abandoned vehicles on a stretch between junctions 5 and 6 straddling both counties, according to the AA.

The anti-clockwise section was closed intermittently throughout yesterday morning as police cleared stranded vehicles and tried to avoid a recurrence of Tuesday night's 37-mile jam from mid-Surrey to the Dartford Tunnel. More than 1,000 people were unable to get home and spent the night in a service station after the weather forced them to abandon their vehicles.

In Nottinghamshire, police were investigating a crash in which Glyn Palmer, 37, and his two children Darren, 10, and Paula-Marie, 8, died in driving snow on Tuesday night. Their car collided with an articulated lorry near their home near Oxton.

Ann Johnson, 52, from Alltwalis,near Carmarthen, died and her husband, a front-seat passenger, was seriously injured when their car skidded off the A40 at Carmarthen and crashed into road signs in the early hours.

Two people were hurt when 14 vehicles collided in ice and snow on the A13 in Pitsea, Essex. Stretches of the M3 and A3 were temporarily blocked. Police also shut the slip road on to the M23 near Gatwick and the A28 near Hastings.

Stranded motorists packed the Clackett Lane Service Station on the M25 at Westerham, near Sevenoaks, where offices and other rooms were opened up to make room for them when an adjoining 58-room hotel became full.

Tom McNab, 26, a Prince's Trust employee from Redruth, Cornwall, was still at the westbound side of the service station 22 hours after stopping for petrol. He said: "I feel like I have died and gone to hell. I am resigned to drinking coffee for the foreseeable future."

He was travelling to the funeral of an uncle in Maidstone, Kent, but was forced by the bad weather to stop.

The Road Chef hotel and neighbouring restaurants and coffee bars at the services were jammed with drivers. Ian Werngren, 36, of Reigate, Surrey, a systems analyst, said: "It is clear that on the Surrey section of the M25 it was not gritted properly. It seems they have done too little too late and we are suffering the consequences."

He was travelling home from work in Romford, Essex and pulled in to tell his wife he would be late. He said: "I am still here now."

Owen Lorenzen, 21, a chef, waited 18 hours for the RAC after he fell from his motorcycle in icy conditions. "To be honest I gave up hope."

The Arctic weather forced the closure of more than 20 schools in Kent, in towns as far apart as Ashford, Gravesend and Tunbridge Wells.

Snow flurries are forecast to continue in the East and South East, spreading to northeast England, the Pennines and eastern Scotland.

Letters, page 19
Forecast, page 24

TONY WHITE

A four-wheel-drive vehicle heads across country yesterday as one of the carriageways of the M25 slows to a frustrating crawl

MOTORISTS' SURVIVAL GUIDE

Drivers stuck in snow were warned by the AA not to abandon vehicles. A spokesman said: "Walking in heavy snow is very tiring. In a blizzard you can't see where you're going and you can get disorientated." Other tips include:

☐ Keep a blanket or extra clothes in the car;
☐ Carry de-icer, a shovel, tow rope, jump leads and torch;
☐ Listen to traffic and weather reports on the radio;
☐ Allow a longer journey time;
☐ Before setting out on long journeys, tell friends or relatives your time of departure;
☐ Allow greater stopping distances;
☐ Don't steer, accelerate or brake harshly;
☐ Use second gear to pull away, easing off gently;
☐ Fill up windscreen washer bottle and check tyres before setting off.

Husband denies lying over ordeal

By Adrian Lee

THE husband of Carol Wardell, the murdered building society manageress, told a jury yesterday that he fought for basic survival after being bound and gagged by four men who had taken her captive. Gordon Wardell, 42, who denies murdering Carol, 39, in September last year, rejected a prosecution claim that he invented his 14-hour ordeal.

Mr Wardell said at Oxford Crown Court that he could not explain why his cries for help were not heard for so long or why he was bound in such a way that he could have tied the knots himself.

He said that after posting letters and visiting a pub, he was attacked when he walked into the lounge of his home in Meriden, West Midlands, at about 10pm.

"My arms were grabbed from both sides and almost at the same point they were forced up behind my back.

"Shortly afterwards ... there was a cloth put across my face. My knees were kicked from behind me. I was down on the floor and the lights came on and I could see Carol and a man with her."

He lost consciousness and never saw the faces of the men who held him. When he came round hours later he was in "absolute agony", bound so tightly that he could barely move. "My movements were concentrated on basic survival. I had got to move between two positions I could get into: lying on my back or sitting on my feet on the floor."

Mr Wardell said that he rocked backwards and forwards to keep the blood circulating. As the hours wore on, he would shout only when he heard people outside the house. Eventually, he was found by police and taken to hospital, where he was told that his wife had been killed. "I felt as if my whole world had come to an end."

Richard Wakerley, QC, for the prosecution, asked that if he had been bound in agony for 14 hours, "Does it surprise you that all that the hospital gave you was a cup of tea?" Mr Wardell: "I don't know."

The trial continues.

Wardell: described 14 hours of agony

THE WEEKEND
STARTS HERE

SATURDAY
IN THE TIMES

Fast and festive:
Frances Bissell's
recipes for
foolproof,
low-fat Christmas
cake
and pudding

PLUS
Win a 14-day
Caribbean cruise
for two

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British beef is safe and good for you, says Hogg

Ministers accuse schools of overreacting on BSE

By Michael Hornsby, Agriculture Correspondent

GOVERNMENT ministers accused parents and schools yesterday of overreacting to fears of "mad cow" disease as the beef industry reported a 5 per cent drop in sales last month.

Hundreds of schools across the country have taken beef off the menu, either on their own initiative or under pressure from parents worried by media coverage suggesting that the risk of infection is greater than officially stated.

Visiting Smithfield meat market, Douglas Hogg, the Agriculture Minister, said: "I believe that British beef is safe. I think it is good for you and people should be encouraged to eat it." Mr Hogg said the Government acted on the advice of a panel of experts who had given extremely careful thought to all the issues. "They conclude that BSE [bovine spongiform encephalopathy] is not transmissible to humans and that in any event our controls are effective enough to prevent the infective agent getting into the human food chain."

Angela Browning, the Food Minister, said parents were overreacting. She also criticised tacked Sir Bernard Tomlinson, the authority on brain disease who says he no longer eats hamburgers or meat pies because they might contain BSE-infected offal.

"I have invited him, if he has got any new scientific evidence, please to make it available to us. But my understanding is that he has not," Mrs Browning said. She added that it would be "quite irresponsible" to act on the opinion of one person, however eminent, when other eminent scientists who had looked at all the evidence did not share his view.

Beef sales dropped 5 per cent in the four weeks to November 20, compared with the same period last year, the Meat and Livestock Commission (MLC) said yesterday. The drop is attributed in part to Granada TV's *World in Action* programme, broadcast on November 13, which claimed that 600 BSE-infected cows were eaten each week.

The commission said the programme was "slanted" and had failed to give due prominence to the safeguards in place to prevent any potentially infected meat from such animals reaching consumers.

Responding to Mrs Browning's remarks, Sir Bernard said he would outline his concerns in a letter in the next few days to John Pattison, dean of the medical school at University College London and chairman of the Government's advisory committee on spongiform encephalopathy.

Sir Bernard said that he was one of many scientists who had voiced similar worries. "I have continued to eat beef. I only exclude anything that contains offal. But there are scientists who now do not eat beef at all."

He said he had become more cautious because of the recent clusters of deaths from Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD), the human counterpart to BSE, among dairy farmers and teenagers, which were difficult to explain as pure chance.

"A number of things have happened in the last year or so which make one more anxious and as if something different is happening. Obviously the agent one would think of first of all, if something different is happening, is BSE."

Private schools have joined state schools in banning beef products. Clifton College and Queen Elizabeth's Hospital School, in Bristol, have stopped serving sausages and beefburgers and are importing other beef. Wellington College, in Somerset, has proscribed minced beef and beef offal. But Eton College, Prince William's school, has made no changes. "We trust the Government's advice. We do not believe there is a risk," a spokesman said.

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HELPLINE LANDS BBC IN HOT WATER

A confidential telephone helpline on "mad cow" disease run by BBC Radio advised that it might be safer not to eat any beef — or beef products such as Bovril. The advice flew in the face of ministers' insistence that British beef is "wholly safe".

The makers of Bovril criticised the BBC and pointed out that it uses only Argentine beef. Ian Ramsay, managing director of CPC UK, said: "We should not even be mentioned in the same breath as BSE." He accused the BBC of irresponsibility. "It is terrible to frighten people in this way."

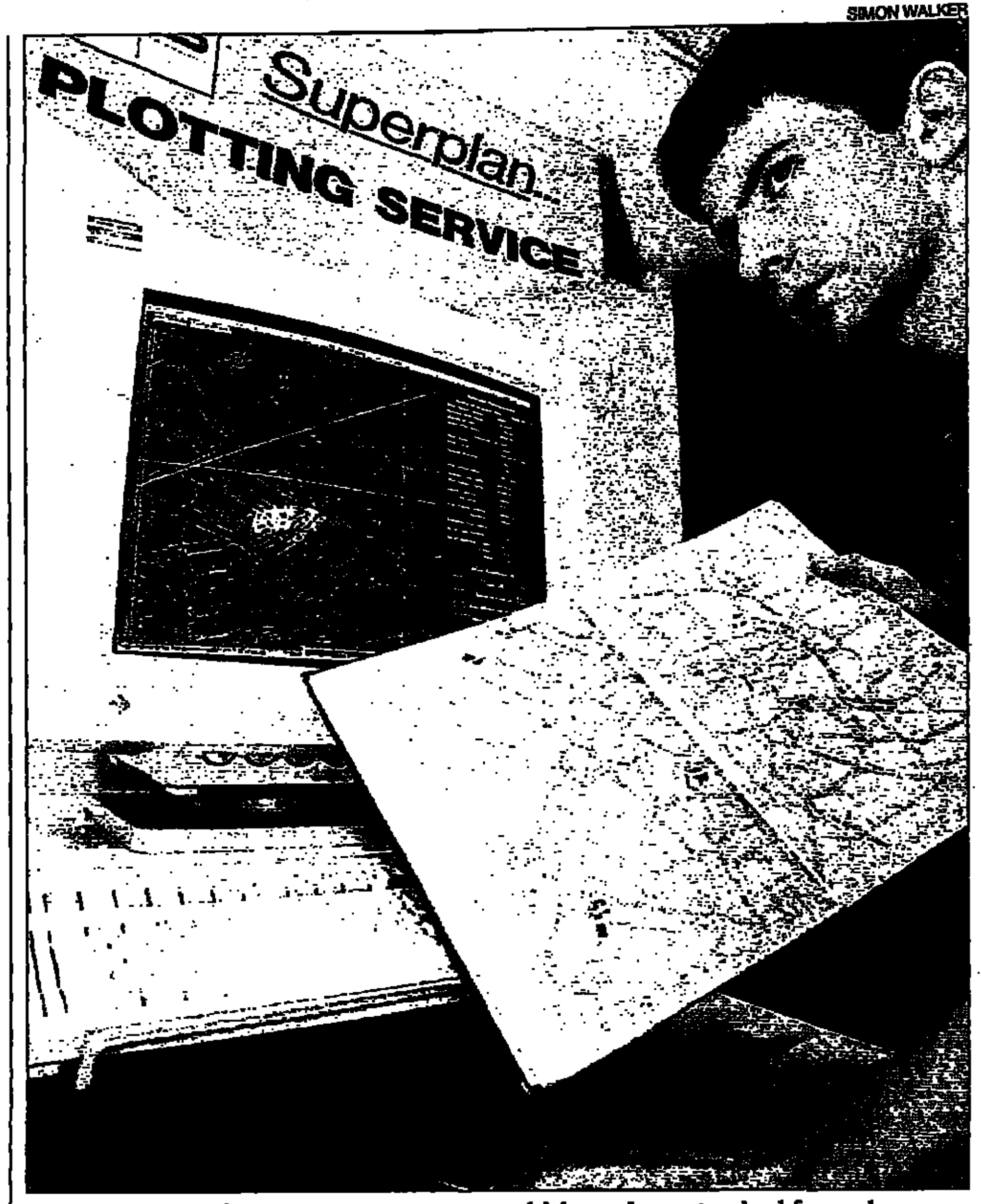
The BBC said it apologised unreservedly to Bovril.

Angela Browning, the Food Minister, who has lodged a strongly worded protest with the corporation, said she was very concerned about the information given.

The BBC said workers on the helpline, run by an organisation called Broadcasting Support Services on behalf of the corporation, were told to tell callers there was a debate on BSE, and that the Chief Medical Officer's message was that beef products were safe, while some scientists believed there might be a risk from some beef products.

A BBC spokeswoman said: "There was one incident when one operator mistakenly used a brand name, Bovril, intending to mean the more generic term stock cubes as the kind of beef products some scientists believe may carry some risks."

SIMON WALKER



An operator prints out a computer map, which can be customised for each user

Computerised maps offer personal route into future

By Nick Nuttall, Technology Correspondent

PERSONALISED maps, for planning everything from holiday travel to pub crawls, will soon be available on home computers, the Ordnance Survey said yesterday.

The computerised maps, sent down telephone lines, will open up a world of opportunities. Instead of thumbing through guides and road atlases, travellers will be able to access a customised map from a range of companies licensed by the Ordnance Survey. These would incorporate details about their hobbies and interests.

Peter Staniczenko, a marketing manager with the OS, said the personalised service would draw on the electronic maps of Britain compiled by the survey. Huge amounts of information from central government or companies have been overlayed on these.

For example, prospective home owners will soon be able to dial up the address of a house and see its location. The house buyers could then ask the computer about nearby rubbish tips or coal mines.

As for hobbyists, someone interested in warfare could call up a county map with battlefields marked. Someone also interested in real ale could then have appropriate pubs overlayed.

The possibilities were outlined as the Ordnance Survey announced its Superplan scheme, which makes available to businesses the organisation's 290,000 large-scale maps as one vast electronic map. Firms wanting to see maps detailing, for example, street-by-street water mains or electricity cables, will be able to buy them at city centre agents.

Consumers are likely to have access to computerised map technology, known as Geographic Information Systems, from next year, when the first in-car navigation systems are likely to be launched. These offer map displays which advise drivers on best routes and include such features as low bridges and one-way systems.

Flower-box drug dealer is jailed

A Colombian cocaine dealer trapped by customs officers on the day they seized £37 million worth of the drug was jailed for ten years yesterday. Baron Borja, 49, had already admitted to dealing at Woolwich Crown Court, southeast London.

He was arrested after visiting a customs front company in Manchester. Officers found 243kg of cocaine inside six flower boxes aboard an aircraft that landed at the city's airport. The biggest series of cocaine seizures followed, with officers offered 5,000 kilos worth £350 million in America and Europe.

Parcel bomb

A man aged 45 was arrested in Coventry after a parcel bomb exploded at a postal sorting office. More than 300 workers were evacuated from the building in Bishop Street and no one was hurt. The parcel, about the size of a shoebox, had been addressed to a house in the city and was not treated as a terrorist matter.

Forest stolen

Thieves have uprooted a forest of 5,000 saplings which were planted by local volunteers last year at Buntings Wood, Thorne, South Yorkshire. They are worth £8,000 and had been planted on four acres as part of an 80-acre woodland improvement scheme. The saplings include oak, ash, limes and sweet chestnut.

£5m painting

A 17th-century painting, *The Finding of Moses* by Orazio Gentileschi, was sold at Sotheby's to an anonymous buyer for £5,061,500, an auction record for the artist. The painting was sent for sale by the executors of the late Lord Howard of Henderskele, to maintain the upkeep of Castle Howard, North Yorkshire.

Seat of power

Background music and murals helped Westminster to become the first council to win a national Loo of the Year award, sponsored by the British Tourist Authority, after 11 of its public lavatories were granted certificates of excellence. Individual winners across Britain are to be featured in a *Good Loo Guide*.

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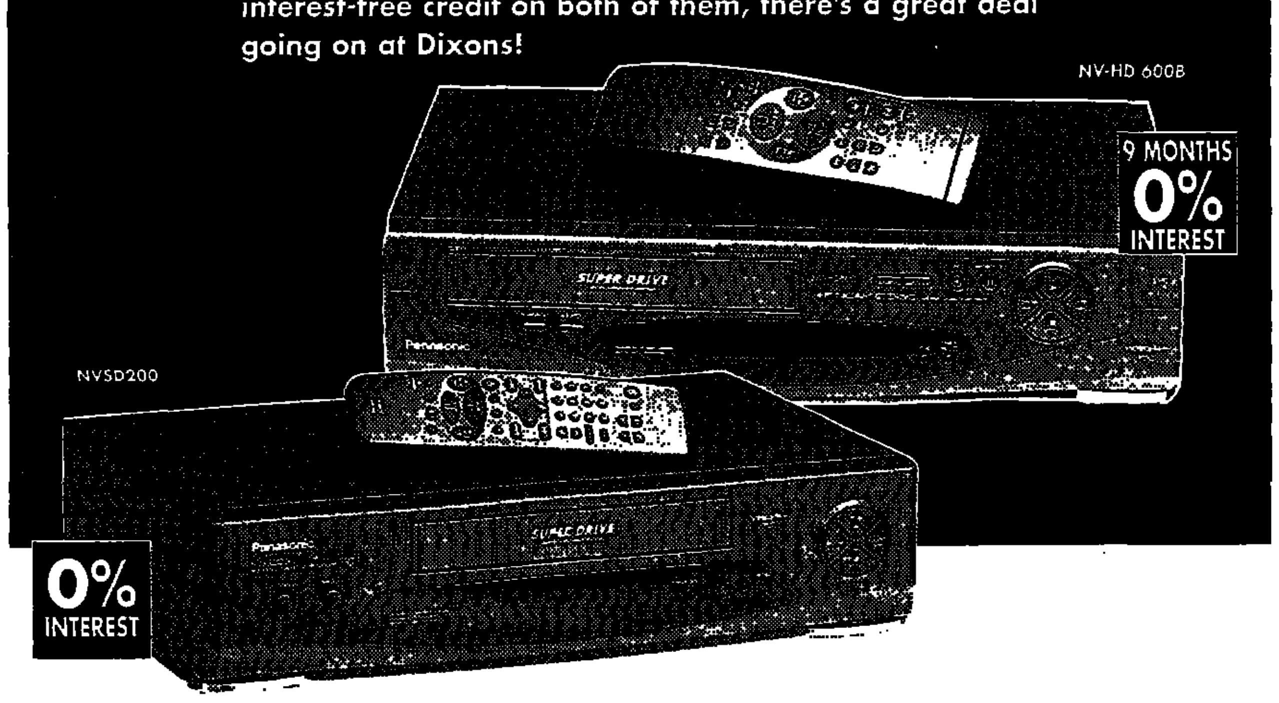

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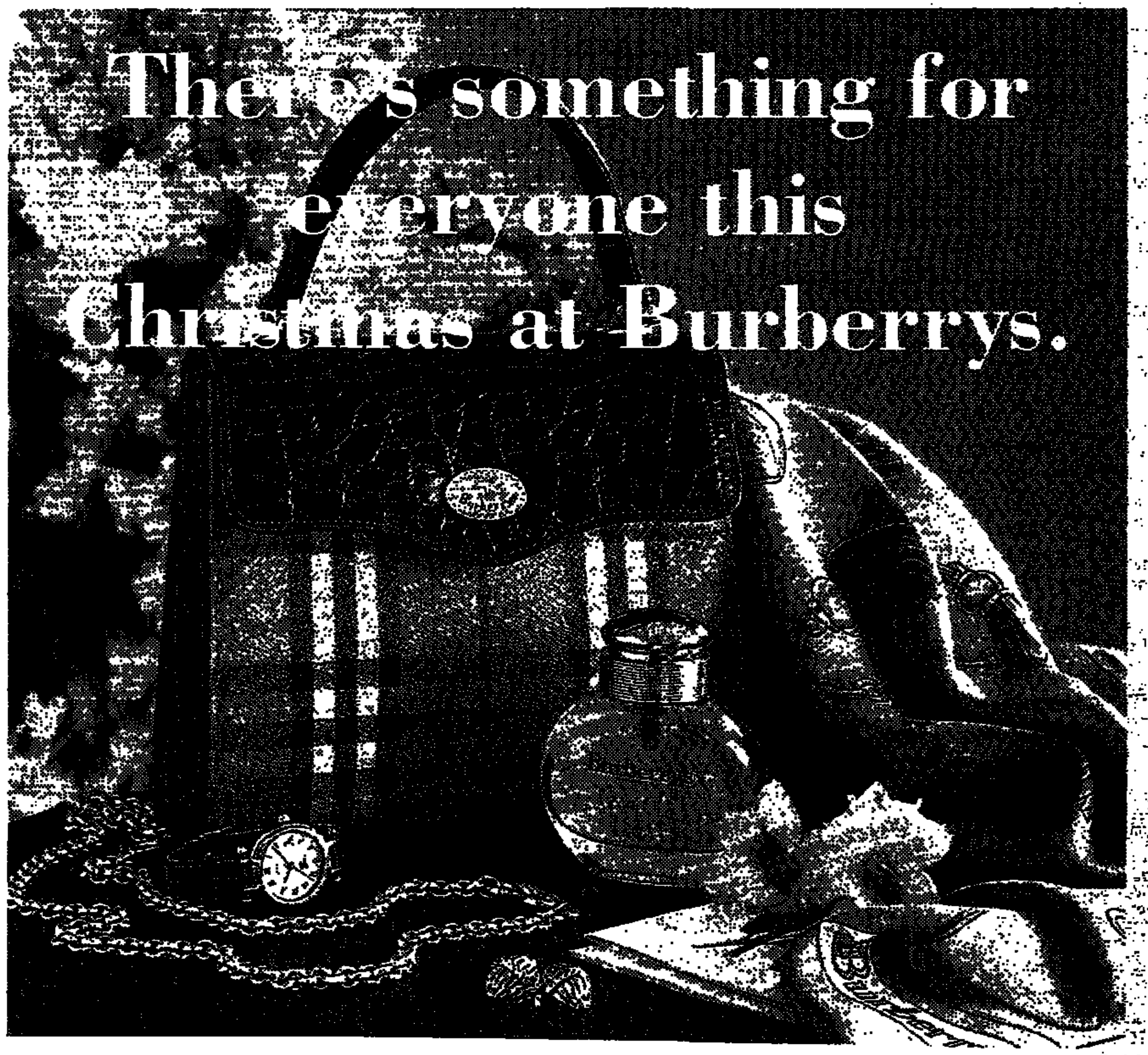

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Errors in cancer therapy add to women's suffering

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

WOMEN given radiotherapy for breast cancer have suffered serious injury to their arms and shoulders, an official inquiry reported yesterday.

The injuries have left some women in constant pain with paralysed arms, while others have suffered damage to bone and soft tissue, the report says. The side-effects are rare, however, and the result of out-of-date treatment practice. Breast cancer patients being treated now "must not have their confidence shaken in either their specialists or their treatment".

The independent inquiry was commissioned by the Royal College of Radiologists at the request of the Health Department after protests by a small group of injured women first drew attention to the problem in the early 1990s.

The group, known as Rage (Radiotherapy Action Group Exposure), alleged that poor practice by radiotherapists had caused the damage and demanded compensation and measures to prevent other women being injured.

The inquiry report says that the way in which radiotherapy was carried out and the dose of radiation used were the main causes of the damage.

Patients were more likely to be affected if they were moved between receiving radiotherapy to the breast and radiotherapy to the lymph nodes in the armpit and lower neck. Moving the patient increases the risk of an overlap between the areas irradiated. In addition, centres using high-dose techniques in the hope of improving the chance of a cure were more likely to have harmed patients. The inquiry found that 48 of a sample of 126 Rage members whose records were examined were suffering from brachial plexus neuropathy (BPN), a severe condition in which the main nerve supplying power to the arm is damaged. Most of the rest had other injuries, including bone damage and swollen arms.

Dr Thelma Bates, clinical oncologist and chief author of the report, said 65,000 patients had been treated at 15 cancer centres between 1980 and 1993, the vast majority without injury. The aim of the inquiry was to establish why some suffered "very distressing damage" while thousands did not. Most of the BPN cases occurred in the first half of the period, with only seven cases since 1987, reflecting improvements in practice.

The report, which is being sent to all radiotherapy centres and clinical oncologists, calls for a national £1.5 million study to examine the optimum radiotherapy technique.

Dr Joan Pritchard, co-ordinator of the Rage Breast group, said 1,700 women had contacted the group. "We faced the cancer. We didn't think we would have to face radiation damage, too."

Lady Ironside, 64, a member of Rage Breast, whose left arm was injured after radiotherapy at the Royal Marsden Hospital, south London, in 1982, said she had spent £100,000 on legal action.

"I ran out of money. No one can afford to take a case on their own. We are now asking the Government to compensate us. This is a very fair report that lays the blame where it belongs and should help us pursue our claim."

[illegible] TREATMENT

Recommendations for radiotherapy treatment of breast cancer:

☐ ***Patients should always be treated in a fixed position.***
☐ **High-dose techniques should be used with caution.**
☐ **Closer attention should be given to the precise doses received by the tissue in the lower neck and armpit.**
☐ ***The lymph nodes in the neck and armpit should not be irradiated routinely unless there is high risk of recurrence.***
☐ **Every cancer centre should have a formal written protocol for breast cancer treatment.**
☐ **Patients should have explained to them whether symptoms are caused by their cancer or its treatment.**

Body and Mind, page 16

GILL ALLEN

Dr Joan Pritchard, left, and Lady Ironside, both of the Rage Breast group

Body's own defence offers hope against Aids

BY NICK NUTTALL

A NEW and possibly powerful treatment for Aids has been pinpointed by scientists. They have discovered a substance made by the body's disease-fighting system that appears to suppress the virus that can cause Aids.

It may explain why some people with HIV progress far more slowly to Aids than others. The substance, which is detailed in *Nature*, is called interleukin-16. Studies by Professor Reinhard Roche and his team at the Paul Ehrlich Institute in Langen, Germany, indicate that the substance interferes with the way HIV hijacks the body's immune system and allows it to replicate at will.

Humans have specialised white blood cells called lymphocytes whose job is to mop up invading diseases. It is thought some lymphocytes may produce the interleukin-16 in response to HIV, which can halt its progress.

Researchers believe interleukin-16 will not be tested on humans for years, until its effect is better understood.

Meningitis kills teenage girl in cluster of cases

BY RUSSELL JENKINS

A TEENAGE factory worker has become the latest victim to die in a series of meningitis outbreaks. The 16-year-old girl, from Bishop Auckland, is one of seven new cases diagnosed in Co Durham.

The "cluster" of suspected meningococcal infection in the Northern and Yorkshire Regional Health Authority area has seen a 50 per cent rise in reported cases there.

Strains of meningitis, which is fatal in one in ten cases, have struck sporadically across the country. Some worried parents are keeping their children from school. Known as a winter disease, it appears to have struck earlier and with more virulence than usual.

National surveillance procedures have been heightened at the Public Health Laboratory in Colindale, north London, but officials want to reassure parents that there is no epidemic. Christine Murphy, a spokeswoman, said that official statistics for the first ten months of the year showed only a slight increase — up from 936 cases last year to 1,005 this year. Between 1990 and 1993, there were as many as 1,119 in the same period.

She said: "It presents itself in isolated cases but we do see small numbers of clusters. It is impossible to predict the final figure but we would reassure people the figures are not widely outside parameters for the time of year."

Health experts are monitoring a "cluster" among pupils at Wolsey Junior and Infant School in New Addington, Croydon, south London. The school was closed after a boy aged ten died within 24 hours of contracting meningitis-related blood poisoning. Two other pupils are being treated.

The National Meningitis Trust, based in Stroud, Gloucestershire, estimates that there will be more than 2,000 incidents by the end of the year, up from 1,900 in an average year, with about 200 fatal cases.

The charity has been dealing with an increasing number of calls since early October, after the deaths of two teenagers in Lincoln. Ray Thompson, of the trust, said: "We are saying to parents that they should be aware of the symptoms. We would caution against panic."

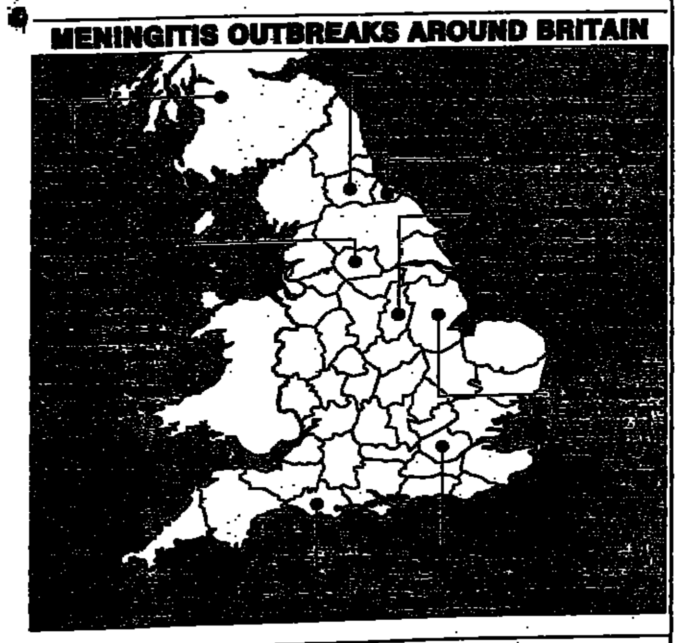
A 15-year-old girl from Weymouth, Dorset, who died last month from suspected meningitis, has been named as Anna Morrison. The parents of 800 children at a school in Ystalyfera, West Glamorgan, have been contacted after a sixth-former contracted the illness. She is said to be comfortable in hospital.

Dr John Woodhouse, consultant public health doctor for the Northern and Yorkshire Health Authority, said: "This disease comes in cycles over decades. Every five to ten years, we experience a sudden surge." One theory is that the disease is linked to the prevalence of influenza and other viral illnesses.

The chances of becoming infected with meningococcal meningitis or meningococcal septicaemia from close contact are small. The symptoms of meningitis — headaches, high tempeatures, vomiting, neck stiffness, joint pains and drowsiness — can be confused with flu and GPs now routinely treat flu patients with penicillin because the onset of the disease can be sudden.

Sufferers can be subject to fits, or anxiety about bright lights. Young children become feverish, fretful, refuse food, vomit and utter high-pitched screams. Some develop blood infections that show as red or purple spots.

MENINGITIS OUTBREAKS AROUND BRITAIN



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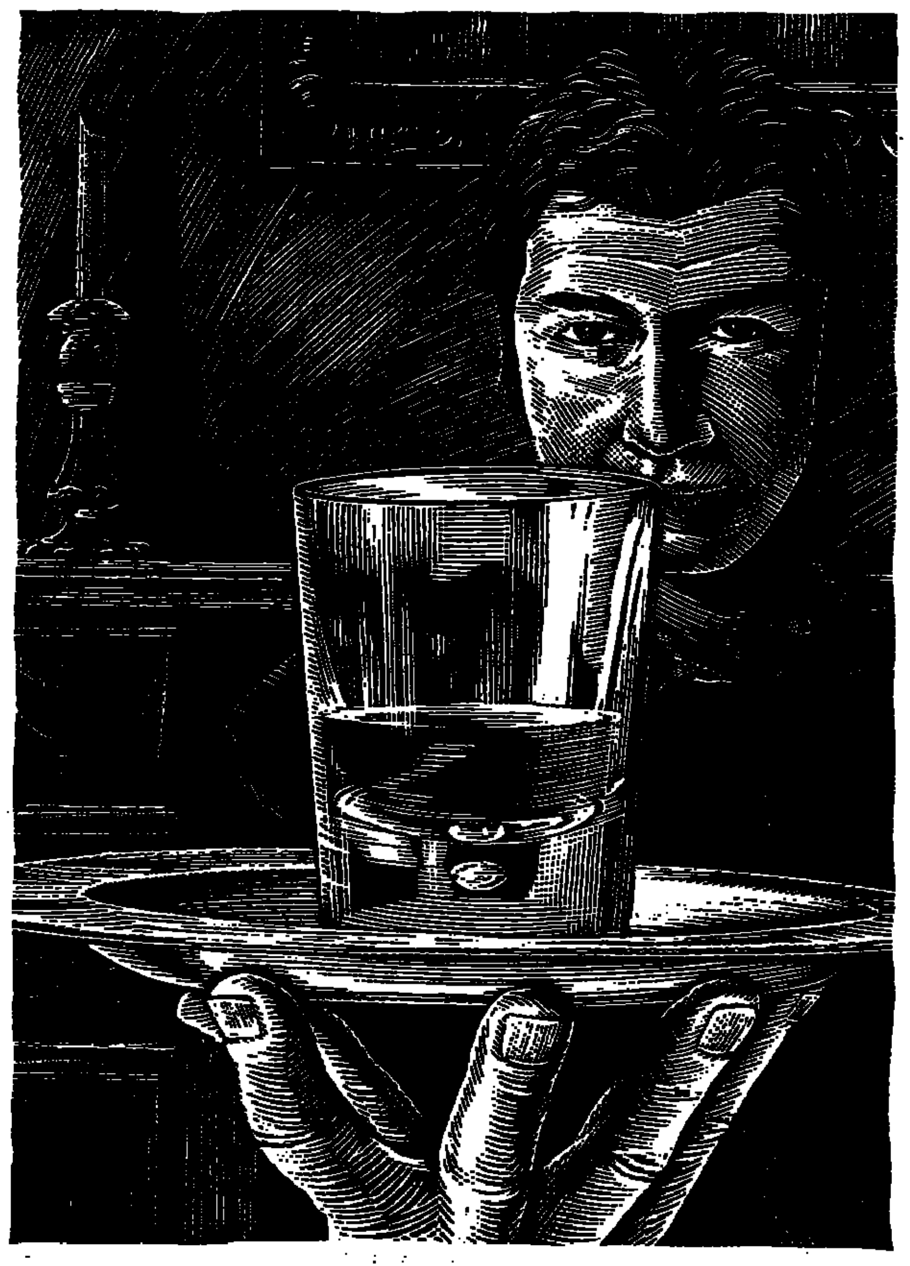

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'We need to know if there is a hospital anywhere that can help our daughter'

Parents face agonising choice over amputation

By Kate Alderson

DAN CALLISTER

The bone in Lisa Dodd's leg is so soft that she must wear a plaster cast constantly to stop it from breaking

THE parents of a baby girl must decide whether her leg should be amputated to save her from a childhood of painful operations.

Lisa Dodd, aged ten months, was born with a genetic condition called Neurofibromatosis Type 1, which can cause bones to become soft and susceptible to fractures. The bones in the baby's leg have become so weak that she wears a full-length plaster cast to stop them breaking.

Doctors have told Eddi and Cheryl Dodd that they will have to choose between amputation of their daughter's left leg or a series of operations, which include bone grafting or leg stretching.

Mrs Dodd, 34, from Frodsham, Cheshire, has already made a difficult medical decision when she chose to have her sterilisation reversed to have a child with her second husband. They later found out that Mr Dodd, 41, a sheltered housing warden, had passed on the dominant gene disorder to Lisa.

The baby was diagnosed with the condition when she was six months old, one of the youngest recorded cases. She was referred to Alder Hey Children's Hospital, Liverpool, where specialists told the family that Lisa's condition was one of the worst they had seen in such a young child.

Doctors from Alder Hey have contacted specialist hospitals throughout the country to discover if there is a viable alternative to amputation and the Dodds are now raising research funds for the Neurofibromatosis Association.

Mrs Dodd said: "It is an agonising decision. If she has her leg amputated now she could have a normal childhood. Trips in and out of hospital will seriously affect her pre-school years but treatments could be developed in the next five years which would enable her to keep her own leg." One option is for a metal pin to be inserted into Lisa's leg, which would make the limb strong enough for walking if she wore a fibreglass splint. However, that would mean two or three operations every year until she was six years old.

At the age of seven doctors would then try to remove the weak bone and bring the "healthy" bone together, an operation with a 50 per cent success rate. Mrs Dodd, who has three children from her first marriage, said: "When the doctor told us Lisa would have to have her leg amputated I thought 'not over my dead body'. I really believed there had to be another way. We need to know if there is a hospital, anywhere in the world, which can help our daughter."

The Neurofibromatosis Association said: "This is a dreadful decision for Lisa's parents. Some experts would say it is worth multiple operations while others may diagnose amputation as the best option. Multiple failed attempts may lead to amputation anyway."

Mother pleads for donor heart to save baby

By Kate Alderson

A YOUNG mother whose baby girl will die in the next few days unless she receives a heart transplant appealed yesterday for a donor.

Carla Simpson's eight-month-old daughter Bronte suffers from cardiomyopathy, which affects only one in three million children and prevents the heart muscles from working properly.

Three surgeons at Freeman Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne, are on 24-hour standby. Miss Simpson, from Shipley, West Yorkshire, who is waiting at her daughter's bedside with Gary Padgett, the baby's father, said: "Please find a new heart for my daughter, all I can do is plead. From one heartbroken mother to another, please help my baby to live, she doesn't deserve to die."

Bronte became ill three weeks after she was born, suffering from wheezing and sweating attacks. Four weeks later she was admitted to Killingbeck Hospital, Leeds, for emergency scans which revealed she had cardiomyopathy. Doctors have told Miss Simpson that her daughter's heart was so weak, she had only a 50 per cent chance of recovery.

Bronte, who has been at the top of the heart transplant list for three weeks, is being monitored in a baby unit at Freeman Hospital, one of only three in the country that carry out heart transplants on children. She is being drip-fed with morphine.

John Dark, a consultant cardiothoracic surgeon at the hospital, said: "She has days to live. She has an excellent chance of survival for many years if we can do the transplant."

Miss Simpson said: "She is deteriorating in front of my eyes. As a mother I know how much pain another mother who has lost a child will be going through at a time like that. My only hope is that somebody somewhere will help us and that they will feel in their grief that part of their baby could still be alive."

Williams: case echoes George Michael fight

Pop singer challenges contract

THE former Take That star Robbie Williams claimed in the High Court yesterday that he was prevented from pursuing a solo career because his contract with a record company gave it exclusive call on his talents, which was an unreasonable restraint on trade.

The claim, to be heard in full before Mr Justice Jacob on February 26, echoes the legal battle by George Michael against Sony Records. Michael lost but was released from his contract.

Williams's company, BMG Records, said his contract lets him pursue his career and it would seek an injunction to stop him going elsewhere.

Somerville will not sue on picture ordeal

By Joanna Bale

THE ITN newsreader Julia Somerville, who was arrested and questioned by police after photographs of a naked child were queried by a film-processing technician, will not be taking legal action over her ordeal.

Miss Somerville and her partner, Jeremy Dixon, an architect, were told on Tuesday that the police would not bring charges. She was congratulated by colleagues when she arrived to read the lunchtime news yesterday.

Scotland Yard, however, is to continue its inquiry into how details of the case reached newspapers. A police spokeswoman said the inquiry would try to establish whether any police sources had played a part in disclosing information.

Miss Somerville has blamed Scotland Yard for leaking details of her arrest. Many newspapers, against police advice, named the child in the photographs. The mother of two was distressed further when a Kodak employee who developed the photographs for Boots gave an interview to a newspaper about what he had seen.

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First brand is still foremost but some products fall far short of continental rivals, says Which?

British fish fingers take a battering in EU survey

By Robin Young

MOST leading brands of fish fingers sold in Britain are short of fish, according to international research that compared the quality of fish fingers in 12 European countries.

Only two of 27 British brands of fish fingers were found to contain more than 65 per cent fish. The lowest, Somerfield Fish Fingers, were found to have a fish content of only 49.9 per cent.

The international survey of the quality of the fish finger was funded by the European Commission and carried out by International Consumer Research and Testing with the collaboration of 12 consumer organisations.

Britain ranked ahead of only Germany and the Republic of Ireland when comparing the percentage of leading brands with more than 65 per cent fish. The French fared best. Over a third of France's leading brands of fish fingers exceeded the 65 per cent target for fish content.

The research, reported in the latest issue of the Consumers' Association magazine *Which?*, published today, says: "This report shows that the fish content of leading UK brands could be improved."

The fishiest of British fish fingers were found to be Bird's Eye Fish Fingers in Oven Crispy Batter, which had 70 per cent fish content.

Some other coated fish products in Britain contain even less fish than the fingers. Of 28 brands of coated fish fillets and steaks tested, five contained less than half fish. The international report suggests the content is so low that they have no right to be labelled fish products at all.

The lowest fish content in any British product was found in Bernard Matthews Fish Dinosaurs, which contained only 37 per cent fish. MacFish New Low Fat Cod Fillets came top with 75.3 per cent.

The United Kingdom has no rules stipulating how much fish there should be in a fish fingers or any other coated fish product. The Consumers' Association argues that a fish content of at least 65 per cent is needed if coated fish products are to be a good source of nutrition. It also says that, since minimum meat content has to be shown on the labels of meat products, a similar rule should be applied to coated fish. "This would help consumers discover exactly what they are buying," the report says.

David Joll, managing director of Bernard Matthews, said yesterday: "We would have no problem with that but the *Which?* report is most unfair. It is comparing apples with oranges. Our Dinosaurs are clearly described in big block letters as a fish and potato product. They sell at a fraction of the price of fish fingers."

Mr Joll said his company was used to putting meat content on meat products and would welcome the introduction of similar rules for fish.

At present price is no indication of fish content. Ross Fish Fingers had a little more fish than Ross Cod Fillet Fish Fingers, though they were only about half the price. Tesco Premium Cod Fillets in breadcrumbs had 10 per cent more fish than the more expensive Country Grain Crumb variety. A spokesman for Ross-Young said: "Obviously the price of a fish finger depends on the type of fish. Ordinary fish fingers can contain minced fish, but cod is quite expensive."

The fish finger was introduced in Britain by Bird's Eye in 1955, the year that Anthony Eden became Prime Minister and the price of newspapers rose to tuppence (1p). The product was narrowly preferred then to a rival called the herring savoury, but has since grown to be an international favourite.

Bird's Eye, still the brand leader, exports fish fingers to countries as diverse as Spain, Portugal, Japan and Dubai, with only minor modification of crumb to take account of differences in local tastes.

Britons eat 300 million fish fingers a year, and spent £72 million on them in 1994. Fifty per cent of British housewives use them regularly, but it has been calculated that it would be cheaper to feed the family fresh salmon.

Earlier this year *Food Magazine* reported that shoppers could pay the equivalent of more than £6 a pound for the low grade fish used in fish fingers, compared to £4.25 for salmon.

JAMES McNIGAN
VAT No. 602 8108 56

A *Which?* survey found 85 per cent of restaurant users wanted the bill to match the prices set out on the menu

Diners back ending of service charges

MOST restaurant customers want the price they pay to be the same as that on the menu, with no service charge or other extras, a Consumers' Association survey shows.

The outcome of the survey was predicted in *The Times* on Monday in a report that found wide variations on how service charges are levied and who benefits from them (Robin Young writes).

More than 1,200 regular users of restaurants were interviewed by the association and 85 per cent chose options matching the menu price with the bill: 52 per cent wanted service included in the price and 33 per cent wanted no service charge.

The survey provides further ammunition to the Earl of Bradford, who introduced a Private Member's Bill in the House of Lords this month to ban service and cover charges. The Bill is to have its second reading on January 10.

The survey showed confusion on whether customers could refuse to pay service charges. In law, the service charge can be refused if service has not been satisfactory, if there has been no indication that it would be charged or if it is stated to be optional. But 55 per cent of respondents thought they would always be obliged to pay a service charge and, of the 45 per cent who knew that it could be refused, few knew all three legitimate reasons.

There was similar confusion over cover charges, which are sometimes justified by placing unrequested items such as bread or olives on the table. In the survey, 38 per cent did not know what a cover charge was for and 31 per cent thought it was related to service. Seventy-three per cent wanted cover charges abolished.

Savings experts mislead clients

By Robin Young

SOME of the investment advice offered by financial advisers is appalling, according to the Consumers' Association magazine *Which?*

Two *Which?* researchers visited 48 advisers, presenting circumstances that should have made their needs unambiguous. Both should have been advised to keep their money in simple, risk-free savings accounts, yet almost a third of the advisers recommended unsuitable investments instead.

In the worst case a researcher presenting himself as a man of 44 who had just received a £15,000 redundancy payment was recommended by an independent financial adviser to buy an investment bond. The purchase would have earned the adviser £800 commission, and left the researcher nothing to live on. This month's issue of *Which?* says: "This adviser's awful advice was compounded by his sloppy approach to the rules. He left our researcher to complete the 'fact find' after he had taken out the bond — too late to be of any use."

Some tied agents, selling the products of only one company, gave almost equally bad advice. Agents of Albany Life, Canada Life, CIS and Royal London sold the supposedly unemployed researcher medium to long-term investments that tied up £10,000 to £14,000 of his money.

The second researcher presented himself as a 26-year-old wanting to put aside £250 a month over two to three years. *Which?* says the period was too short safely to consider investments, and the small amount involved meant there would be little difference in the money earned from a savings account or a higher-return investment with more risk. Again the advisers suggested a range of financial products including Tessas, life insurance, or a personal pension, none of which was considered suitable for saving money for two to three years.

Which? found that independent financial advisers came out, best with three-quarters giving good advice. More than a third of tied agents gave bad advice. As many solicitors and accountants gave bad advice as good.

The magazine concludes that the present system of regulation is ineffective. "We found that some advisers were breaking the rules routinely," the report says. "A quarter of the financial advisers we investigated failed to declare whether they were independent or tied, though the rules require them to do so."

Sparkling bargain

IN A blind tasting of 19 champagnes and 25 sparkling wines seven expert wine tasters awarded second highest marks to Montana Lindauer Brut from New Zealand, costing only £6.99. Bollinger Grande Année, at £33.99 the most expensive champagne, was chosen as the best by the *Which? Wine Monthly* panel. Moët et Chandon Brut Imperial at £18.95 and Piper-Heidsieck Cuvée Brut at £15.99 were also best buys.

Lifespan of nuclear station extended

By A Staff Reporter

A NUCLEAR power station was given permission yesterday to produce electricity into the next century, three months after its operator was fined £250,000 for four safety breaches.

The Nuclear Installations Inspectorate said it was confident that Wylfa, a Magnox-type station on Anglesey, was able to continue for at least another eight years to 2004. But the inspectorate said the extension was subject to the implementation of improvements identified in a long-term safety review and a series of inspections.

In September, Nuclear Electric was fined over incidents in July 1993 when a metal grab from a crane fell into a fuel channel. Mold Crown Court was told staff did not shut down the reactor for several hours although there was a risk that the grab might have blocked the flow of gas coolant to the reactor core.

Wylfa started producing power in 1971 and was given a 25-year lifespan. Nuclear Electric had asked the inspectorate to extend the licence to 2006.

Wylfa, with a workforce of 500, is among the youngest of Britain's 11 Magnox stations. Yesterday's report marks the end of a series of safety reviews on that type of plant. Dr Sam Harbison, Chief Inspector of Nuclear Installations, said the inspectorate's work had brought many improvements. The long-term safety inspection programme, which began in the early 1980s, required operators to make improvements which would, as far as possible, bring plants up to the standards required of a new station.

Ten have been given approval to continue operating until at least 30 years of age. They are: Bradwell (Essex), Berkeley (Gloucestershire), Hunterston A (Strathclyde), Calder Hall (Cumbria) and Chapelcross (Borders), Hinkley Point A (Somerset), Dungeness A (Kent), Sizewell A (Suffolk), Oldbury (Avon) and Wylfa (Gwynedd).

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Parents invited to join 'standards crusade'

Blair intends to bypass his critics on education tour

By Philip Webster and John O'Leary

TONY BLAIR is to take his campaign for better educational standards over the heads of his critics in the teaching unions by going on a national tour to explain Labour's reform plans.

The Labour leader and his education spokesman, David Blunkett, will hold public meetings across the country to which teachers and parents of all political persuasions will be invited.

Last night Mr Blair said the plan was to involve them in a "crusade for standards". He rejected criticism from the unions that Labour was anti-teacher and reaffirmed his readiness to be tough on bad schools and teachers.

Labour officials drew a comparison between the education campaign and Mr Blair's round-Britain tour of Labour constituency parties in which he won over sceptical activists for his decision to scrap Labour's Clause Four commitment to nationalisation.

He was reported last night to be convinced that most teachers would back his plans for new headteacher qualifications, a new grade for the best classroom teachers, proposals to close and reopen bad schools, national guidelines for homework and testing for five-year-olds.

When his plans were announced on Tuesday, Mr Blair was accused of "teacher bashing", and of being more interested in getting rid of bad teachers than providing more money for schools.

In a speech last night to the London region of the CBI, he said the changes would require the support of schools, teachers and parents. "Some of the unions and other representative bodies have been critical, which is their right. Some have said we are anti-teacher and there they are wrong. Teachers and heads are a vital part of any community and the vast majority do a very good job. But some do not and we must not shy from the difficult decisions that that fact implies."

Mr Blair said that when Labour spelt out how it intended to raise standards through a proper mixture of pressure and support on local authorities, schools, heads, teachers, parents and children the party was striking a "real chord with parents all over Britain".

He added: "They know that when it comes to education children do not get a second chance. I am absolutely confident that parents will back us because they know we are on their side. I am absolutely confident that good teachers, the majority, will back us too."

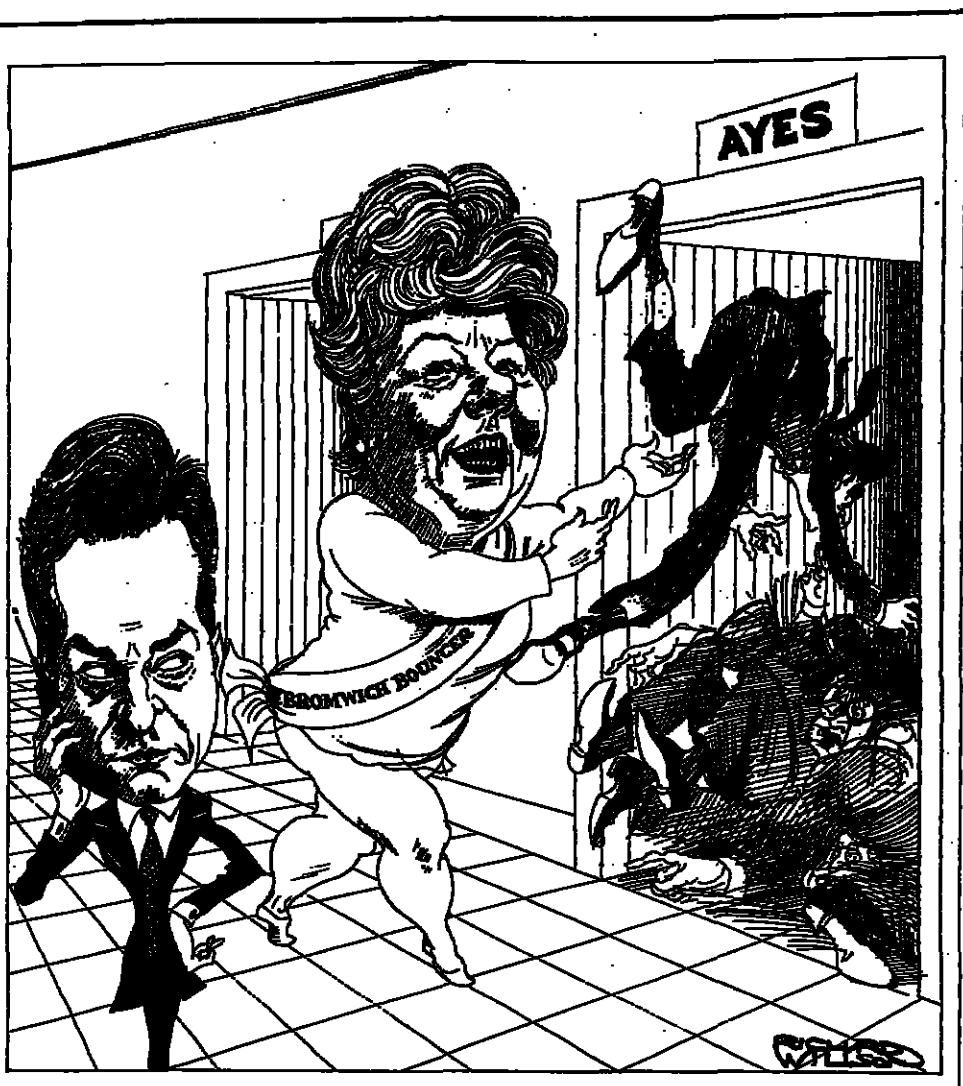
Yesterday Mr Blunkett distanced Labour still further from its traditional education policies, following the party's call for higher standards in state schools with criticism of the comprehensive system. At a London conference on the party's document, *Excellence for Everyone*, he set a Labour government the task of reforming comprehensive schools. He ruled out a return to selection, but said that the present system had not lived up to expectations.

"We want comprehensive education that actually means what it says," he said. "What happened in the 1960s and 1970s . . . was that we changed the name of schools and sometimes the admissions policy, but we did not actually transform the nature of the education and opportunities that youngsters got."

Labour's standards policy promised support for specialisation by secondary schools, along the lines of present government policy. Mr Blunkett said the aim would be to provide "diversity within one campus" following a model pioneered by some American schools.

The conference, attended by 400 head teachers, union representatives, councillors and education authority officials, gave a qualified welcome to Labour's plans. But Mr Blair was criticised for his attack on state school standards, in which he claimed that 30 per cent of schools were failing.

Peter Miller, vice-president of the Secondary Heads Association, accused the party leadership of indulging in "superficial electoral hype".



Strong arm of the Speaker

By James Landale, Political Reporter

THE Speaker dismissed complaints of bullying by Labour whips yesterday, saying that she would use a double nelson to frogmarch an MP through the division lobby.

Tory MPs said that Labour whips had stood shoulder to shoulder on Tuesday night to try to try to prevent left-wing rebels from defying the leadership and voting against the 1p cut in income tax. Robert Hughes said: "This not the first time I have seen this sort of intimidation. I do think something should be done."

But the Speaker, Betty Boothroyd, replied: "As a former whip myself, I can tell this House that when I used to keep Members out of a division lobby, it was a single nelson, and when I needed them to go into the division lobby, it was a double nelson."

She said that every Labour MP who wanted to vote had been able to do so. When challenged on this, she said: "I'll tell you how we know — because there was no complaint to me, and Members of Parliament complain to me if the air in this Chamber is not fresh enough for them."

The Tory MP Alan Duncan shouted angrily: "It's not funny. It's not funny."

Some Tory MPs are growing restless with the Speaker, accusing her of partisanship and failing to defend the dignity of the Commons.

Official retracts criticism of MoD police in arms inquiry

By James Landale, Political Reporter

A ROW broke out in Whitehall last night after a committee of MPs was told that the Ministry of Defence had withheld vital documents from an investigation into illegal arms sales to Iran.

The Department of Trade and Industry said that MoD police had denied it access to papers relating to the BMARC arms-to-Iran affair. But Dr John Meadway, head of the DTI's export control division, then retracted the accusation after checking the facts.

"He had not prepared himself for that question," a DTI spokesman said last night. "The papers were never requested."

Dr Meadway told the Trade and Industry Select Committee that the question of whether or not the papers would be available to his investigation was raised at a ministerial level. But DTI officials said later that he had not requested them because he did not think they were relevant to his inquiry.

The papers were seized during an investigation into BMARC's parent company, Astra Holdings. BMARC (British Manufacture Research Company), the arms firm of which Jonathan Aitken was once a director, is under a separate investigation by Customs and Excise to determine whether it broke an arms embargo during the Iran-Iraq war by shipping weapons to Tehran via Singapore.

Michael Heseltine, then the President of the Board of Trade, told the Commons in June that naval guns built by BMARC in the 1980s and licensed by the DTI for export to Singapore "could well" have been going to Iran.

The papers were said to have been mislaid at MoD police headquarters in Essex before being passed to BMARC's liquidator. They have since been passed to the Scott arms-to-Iraq inquiry.

Yesterday's disclosure came as the select committee began its own inquiry into the affair. Officials from the MoD and the Foreign Office will appear before the committee.

Dr Meadway told MPs that his department became aware of the papers last June after Mr Heseltine told the Commons that the DTI was investigating the affair. "The question of whether they could be available to us or not was raised," he said. "There was discussion about the role of the papers between departments at quite a senior level."

Asked at what level these discussions had taken place, he replied: "Ministerial level."

Mr Meadway said he understood that the MoD was legally unable to release the papers. "If the MoD police had been in a position . . . to hand over these papers, that could have been done. But my understanding is that they were under considerable legal constraints."

Although Mr Meadway was not aware of the contents of the papers, he did not believe they would have fundamentally altered the findings of the DTI inquiry.

IN PARLIAMENT

Yesterday in the Commons: backbench debates were followed in the afternoon by trade and industry questions and points of order. Debates were then held on the Audit (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, second reading; Chemical Weapons Bill, remaining stages; Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme. In the Lords: debates on long-term care of the elderly; Boxing Bill, second reading.

Today in the Commons: questions to Northern Ireland ministers and the Prime Minister; debate on the European Union. In the Lords: debates on Community Care (Direct Payments) Bill, second reading; Health and Safety (Repeals and Revocations) Regulations; Street Works (Northern Ireland) Order; Contracting Out (Administration of the Teachers' Superannuation Scheme) Order; European Communities (Definition of Treaties) (Statute of the European Schools) Order.

Bottomley rallies firms to lottery cause

By Nicholas Wood
Chief Political Correspondent

FIRMS will get a ticking-off from Virginia Bottomley today for failing to succumb to the lure of the National Lottery.

Half the country may be glued to the televised draw on Saturday night, but most company bosses have found the game a turn-off. The Heritage Secretary will tell a conference today that only 10 per cent of firms are aware that they can help to transform lottery largesse into popular and worthwhile projects for their local communities.

Mrs Bottomley is expected to say that the projected windfall of £9 billion for good causes over the next five years could be doubled if firms play their part. She will highlight the scope for companies to join forces with local groups, supporting grant applications with promises of more money or other help. Bids for funding stand a better chance of success if they involve such partnerships.

Mrs Bottomley is expected to tell Business in the Community: "The blunt truth is that, so far, only one in ten businesses is unlocking lottery potential. That is a missed opportunity — the equivalent of a product not made, a market not exploited, or a deal not done."

She wants to bring out the altruism of British business, but she also believes that companies fail to appreciate the public relations benefit of associating themselves with good causes.

Focus, pages 33 and 34

County Hall deal attacked

By Arthur Leathley
Political Correspondent

MPs yesterday criticised the protracted sale of County Hall in London and the secrecy surrounding the deal.

The Commons Public Accounts Committee demanded new rules to deter buyers from delaying payments on public buildings. But its complaint that no use had been found for the building had been pre-empted by the announcement on Tuesday that Whitbread was to turn it into a hotel and leisure complex.

County Hall, the former home of the Greater London Council, was sold to Shirayama Shokusan, a Japanese company, for £60 million in 1993. The committee said that £10 million of this would be deferred and linked to future profits. "Such arrangements do create an incentive for the purchaser to delay payment of the deferred sum."

The committee also complained that the London Residuary Body, set up to dispose of Greater London Council property, had imposed confidentiality clauses on the sale that were "difficult to reconcile with proper accountability".

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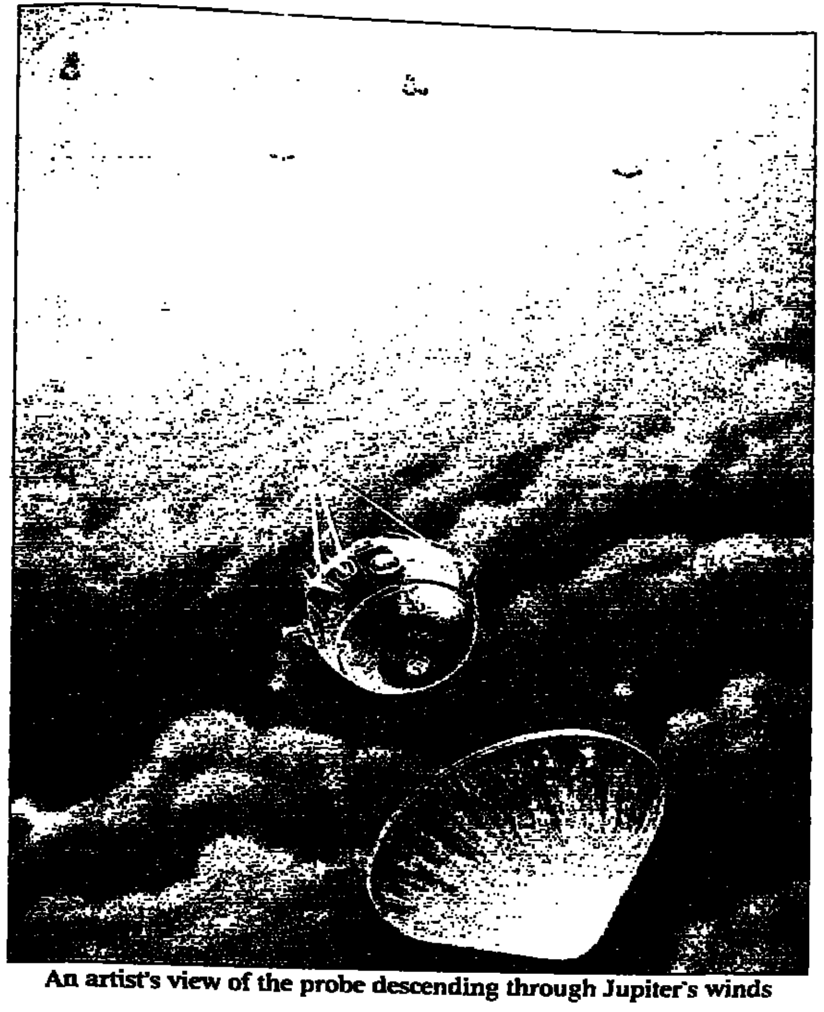
Galileo spacecraft makes rendezvous with Jupiter after troubled 2.3 billion mile space odyssey



An artist's view of the probe descending through Jupiter's winds

Probe races to stormy demise

By Anjana Ahuja

A SPECTACULAR fate awaits a tiny space probe tonight, when it parachutes into Jupiter's atmosphere after one of the most troubled voyages in space history.

The probe, which separated from the unmanned Galileo spacecraft in July, will beam back to Earth 75 minutes of information about the Jovian atmosphere before either frying in the intense heat or crumpling under the immense atmospheric pressure.

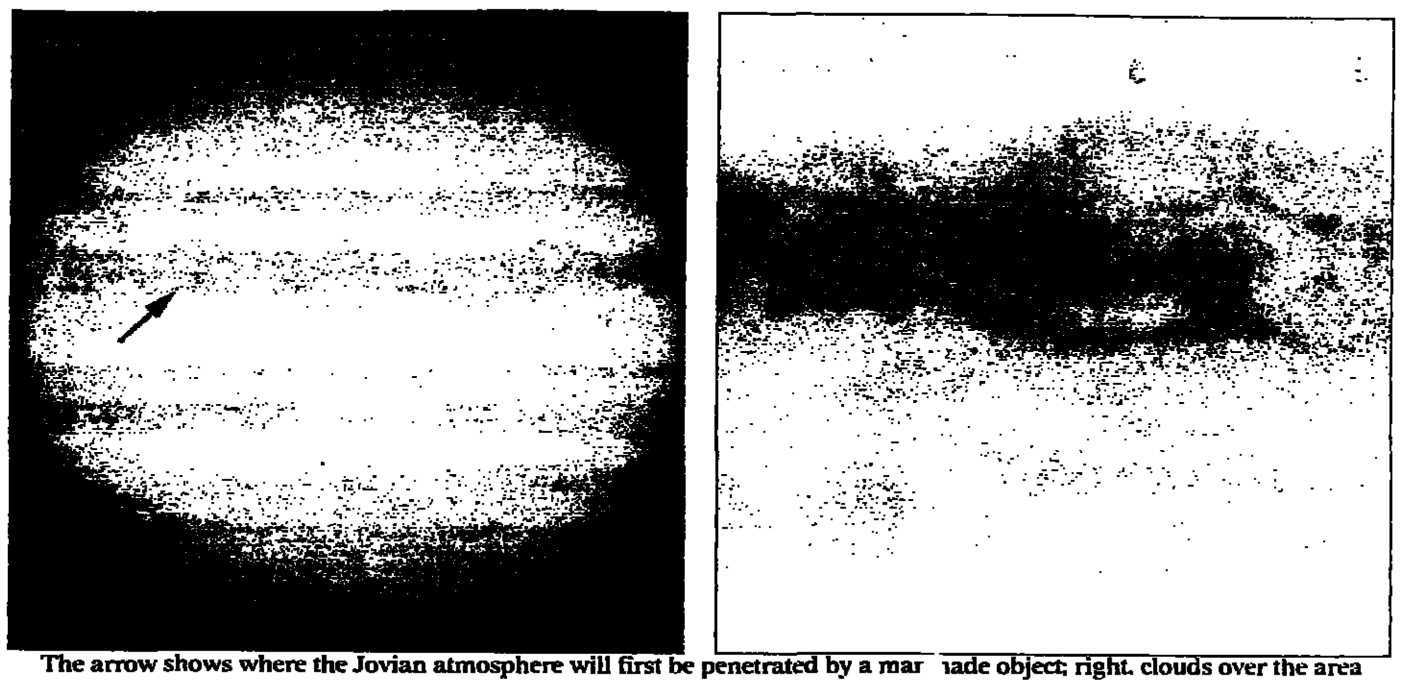
Scientists will not know for nearly an hour whether the kamikaze probe — which enters the Jovian atmosphere at 10.07pm London time at more than 100,000 miles an hour — has successfully penetrated the planet's clouds of ammonia. If it does, it will drift down through a layer of ice crystals and water droplets, making the first direct observations of Jovian temperatures, pressures, winds and electric currents. The radio link to Earth will then fizzle out, a prelude to the death of the probe.

Galileo will not undergo the same doom as its daughter probe when it also reaches Jupiter, 484 million miles away from Earth. Just after midnight tonight, the spacecraft will brake, fire its engines and go into orbit around the planet for two years. It will send back information about the turbulent Jovian weather.

Since Jovian weather is quite similar to Earth's, photographs and readings taken by Galileo are expected to help meteorologists to understand weather patterns.

Scientists involved in the mission, including a British team led by Professor Fred Taylor of Oxford University, will be standing by anxiously. Galileo has gained notoriety not only for being the first dedicated space mission to Jupiter but also for its cost. The most serious problems of the mission, which has cost Nasa, America's National Aeronautics and Space Administration, $1.4 billion (£900 million) over 20 years, have been a radio antenna that refused to unfurl and a jam-prone tape recorder. It should have taken two years, rather than six, for the probe to reach Jupiter but a weaker engine — fitted after the *Challenger* disaster in 1987 — meant it had to make the 2.3 billion-mile journey like a pinball bouncing off gravity fields of several planets.

Galileo will investigate the Great Red Spot, a cyclone that has raged uninterrupted for three centuries on Jupiter, besides finding out why the planet is banded.



The arrow shows where the Jovian atmosphere will first be penetrated by a man-made object; right, clouds over the area

Prosecutors in Tokyo catch up with ex-minister

From Peregrine Hodson in Tokyo

JAPAN'S former Labour Minister, Toshio Yamaguchi, was arrested yesterday for breach of trust, ending a month-long stand-off between Mr Yamaguchi and prosecutors.

He is charged with arranging collateral-free loans worth 2.7 billion yen (£18 million) from two credit companies to his sister's business, knowing the loans could not be repaid. Other charges of fraud, embezzlement and perjury are expected to follow.

As a member of the Diet, Mr Yamaguchi has enjoyed immunity from arrest. Although the Tokyo district public prosecutor wanted Mr Yamaguchi to submit to questioning voluntarily, he repeatedly refused, forcing the prosecutors to seek Diet approval for his arrest, which came yesterday afternoon.

Mr Yamaguchi arrived at the Tokyo prosecutor's office by car, shortly before the Diet's formal decision. The arrest warrant was read out and he was handcuffed.

Mr Yamaguchi has been a prominent — some might say colourful — member of the Diet for many years, with a reputation as a political fixer, notorious for his money-making deals.

He entered the Diet in the 1967 election as its youngest member ever. But when Kakuei Tanaka was arrested in 1976 Mr Yamaguchi quit the LDP, describing the party as "too money-orientated", to set up the New Liberal Club faction.

Six years later, when the faction's funds ran low, Mr Yamaguchi returned to the LDP ("to make a fresh start") and became close to the party's power broker, Shin Kanemaru, only to quit the party again in 1993 for the New Frontier Party. His erratic career path gave him contacts in several parties, enhancing his reputation as a fixer.

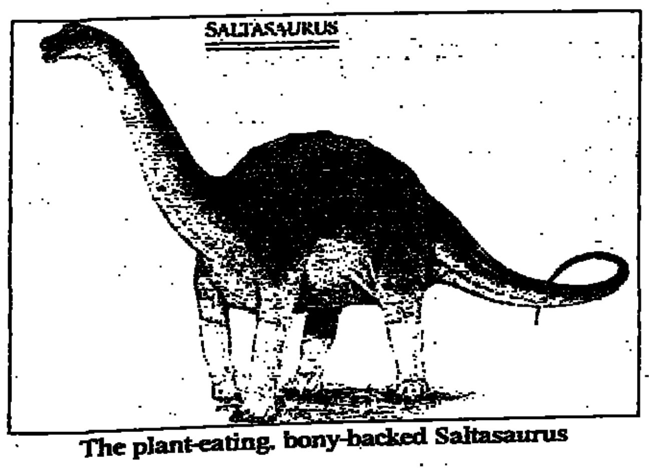
He also cultivated his media image, appearing on game shows, and claimed that one newspaper article with his name in it "was worth a hundred votes" in his home constituency of Saitama.

Last March Mr Yamaguchi resigned from the New Frontier Party "to restore his honour" after allegations of illegal loans incurred by his sister's company. Since then, he has consistently denied any involvement, despite mounting evidence to the contrary.

His sister and brother, by some accounts, borrowed more than 20 billion yen from various sources, including the Tokyo Kyowa Credit Union and the Anzen Credit Union. When the stock market slumped, the businesses foundered. However, he is suspected of soliciting further loans, offering himself as guarantor, knowing the loans could not be repaid.

Many see his behaviour as symptomatic of the Diet's preoccupation with money politics, coupled with the arrogant belief of many members that they are above the law. In this sense Mr Yamaguchi's case is emblematic of the corrupt era of the Eighties.

By yesterday afternoon, when the Diet was asked to approve his arrest, Mr Yamaguchi had few supporters there and little influence on party politics. But some of his fellow politicians watching him being driven into Tokyo detention centre later in the evening may have had the uncomfortable feeling that, but for luck or influence, the man in the black limousine escorted by police cars might have been them.



The plant-eating, bony-backed Saltasaurus

Shugar with the fossilised egg

Cracking bit of history

Hollywood: Scientists hope that, with a little luck, they will find the well-preserved embryo of a dinosaur inside a 70 million-year-old egg.

The egg, discovered by palaeontologists in Argentina, was due to be examined by computerised scans at a hospital in California yesterday. Experts believe the egg is that of a Saltasaurus, a herbivorous, 15ft-high dinosaur that roamed what is now Argentina during the Cretaceous period. Dr Martin Shugar, who was to perform the tests, said the egg is a rarity — perfectly fossilised and unhatched. *(Reuter)*

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Tahiti court ruling on Mururoa confrontation will cost anti-nuclear campaigners millions

Greenpeace outraged as French keep seized ships

By Roger Maynard in Sydney and Our Foreign Staff

GREENPEACE last night filed an appeal against a decision by a French Polynesian court to allow the French Navy to keep two of the environmental group's vessels. The ships were seized during the anti-nuclear protest in the South Pacific in the summer.

The court in Papeete, Tahiti, ruled that both *Rainbow Warrior II* and the *MV Greenpeace* should remain in the possession of the French authorities, as well as a helicopter and several dinghies.

The decision surprised and angered Greenpeace, which had been under the impression that the vessels would be returned after the completion of the current French nuclear test programme.

Yesterday France said it would end its controversial tests at Mururoa atoll before the end of February, "long before the date initially announced of May 31, 1996". Charles Millon, the Defence Minister, did not say how many tests would be held before then; so far it has conducted four, roughly one a month.

M Millon told the French Senate, during a discussion of his ministry's budget, that the first four underground tests had yielded all the scientific and technical data that were expected. But by setting the end of February as the final date, he appeared to leave open the possibility of seven tests.

For Greenpeace, the French legal ruling to seize the ships represents another serious blow to its campaign against nuclear testing in the South Pacific.

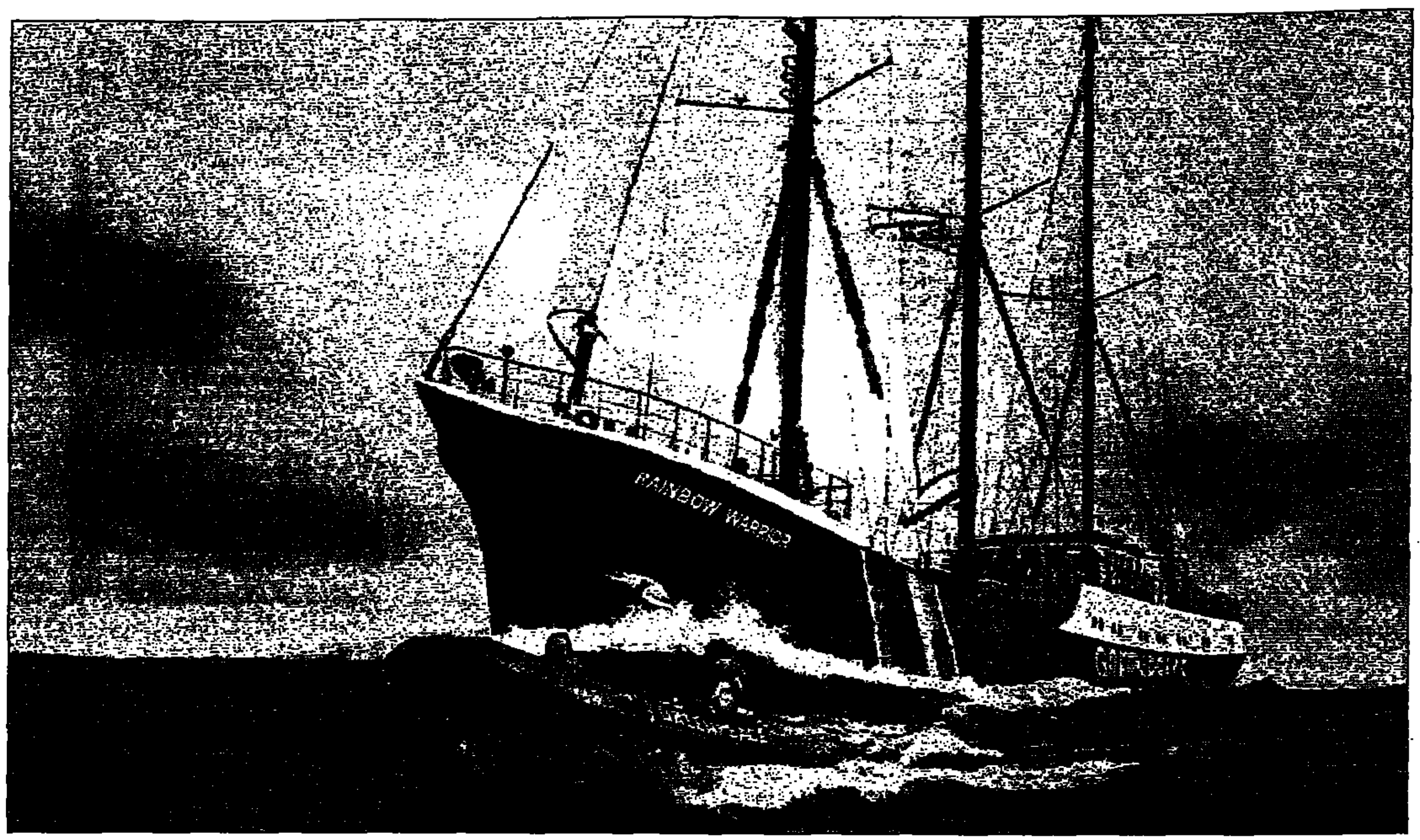
Jon Walters, of Greenpeace Australia, said: "We will be pursuing this all the way. France's continued illegal holding of the Greenpeace ships is an affront to the millions of supporters worldwide and the 100,000 Australians who have financially supported Greenpeace during the French nuclear testing campaign." He added that it was "an absolute outrage" that France, having illegally seized the ships, now intended to keep them illegally.

Duncan Currie, a Greenpeace International lawyer, said: "This decision is a triumph of brute force over law. France has acted like an international outlaw in its nuclear testing programme, as well as in its efforts to suppress public protest."

The loss of the vessels will cost the environmental movement millions of pounds. Both ships, which were towed to Hao atoll in the South Pacific after being seized by French commandos, were equipped with expensive communications equipment and fittings. Estimates put the value of the ships, the helicopter and the inflatable dinghies at nearly £10 million.

There are moves under way to sue the French State through the Federal Court in Los Angeles over the seizure of *Manatea*, an American-flagged Greenpeace vessel, off Mururoa atoll this year. Greenpeace is also claiming damages for kidnapping, false imprisonment and assault of some of its crew.

It is not known what will happen to the two vessels, at present anchored off Hao atoll. But with the cyclone season approaching, both *Rainbow Warrior II* and *MV Greenpeace* face the risk of being badly damaged by deteriorating weather, and could end up as rusting hulks.



Crew of the *Rainbow Warrior II* take part in a drill in their dinghy in the South Pacific. The ship was seized by French Navy commandos

Protesters reluctant to tap into reserves

By Oliver August

THE loss of the vessels seized by the French authorities in Tahiti is a serious blow to Greenpeace finances, the organisation said yesterday.

Despite being one of the richest global environmental groups, Greenpeace will find it hard to raise the £10 million that it says it needs to replace and refit the ships.

Greenpeace has £47 million in international reserve funds, raised from membership fees and donations; half the amount comes from supporters in Germany. But the organisation is reluctant to tap into these funds as many members and donors, who include Al Gore, the American Vice-President, and the Grateful Dead rock group, expect their money to "do some good" directly.

The latest financial setback comes after the recent funding problems over the £1.3 million campaign to stop Shell dumping its Brent Spar oil platform at sea.

Greenpeace has recently become the focus of public criticism after its top executives were flown to a lavish Tunisian holiday club for an annual general meeting. Among the items on the agenda were staff cuts.

Gingrich to face financial inquiry

From Martin Fletcher in Washington

NEWT GINGRICH, embroiled in a budget battle with the White House, faced trouble on another front yesterday when the House ethics committee tentatively agreed to appoint an independent counsel to investigate alleged campaign finance violations.

The committee's five Republicans have finally capitulated to Democrat demands, but are still fighting to limit the scope of the counsel's investigation.

The immediate charge against the Speaker is that he improperly used tax-deductible contributions to finance an overtly political course that was beamed by satellite to campuses across the country. However, Democrats also want the special counsel to investigate other allegations, including whether Mr Gingrich improperly converted the course material into his new book, *To Renew America*.

The charges are a distraction Mr Gingrich could do without. In nine days the Government will shut down for a second time unless the Republican-dominated Congress and the White House can agree how to balance the budget in seven years.

President Clinton was preparing to veto the Republicans' planned cuts last night and is expected to unveil an alternative as early as today.

Prison fast in Seoul by former President

From Agence France-Presse in Seoul

THE former South Korean President, Chun Doo Hwan, has launched a hunger strike in his Seoul prison cell, his aides said yesterday, as the authorities stepped up an investigation into his rise to power 16 years ago.

Mr Chun was stunned after he was imprisoned on Sunday, bitter at what he considers an act of betrayal by President Kim.

The former President, who still has followers in the ruling Democratic Liberal Party, launched the hunger strike after Mr Kim broke a promise that he would not be punished for his record, his lawyer, Lee Yang Woo, said.

He has also challenged Mr Kim, a former dissident, to explain how he could punish his two predecessors after allying with them to win the 1992 presidential race. Mr Chun's predecessor, Roh Tae Woo, is already in jail on corruption charges.

Mr Chun is charged with heading a 1979 coup that triggered a pro-democracy uprising, in the southern city of Kwangju, which was bloodily repressed with the deaths of more than 200 people.

☐ Name change: The Democratic Liberal Party is to be known as the New Korea Party, a party spokesman said. (*Reuter*)

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هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

German MPs back role for troops in Bosnia

From Roger Boyes in Bonn and Tom Rhodes in Washington

THE German Army was yesterday given the green light to help to police the Bosnia peace accord. It was a historic decision for the German parliament, provoking a serious split in the Green Party and drawing criticism about the mission from more than 100 deputies.

But in Washington, Robert Dole, the Senate majority leader, unable to convince fellow Republicans that American lives should be risked in Bosnia, yesterday faced the humiliation of relying on Democratic support in Congress to ensure support for the Nato mission.

Republican colleagues in the Senate have forced Mr Dole to postpone by at least a week the debate on a resolution of conditional approval for President Clinton's dispatch of 20,000 American troops to the region and left him at odds with some of his most trusted allies.

The clear Bundestag majority in favour of a Bosnian mission — by 543 to 107 — masked the anxiety of the German political establishment which, since the Second World War, has adhered to the principle that its troops should not serve in battle zones outside the Nato area.

The 4,000 personnel, who will serve in the British sector, are chiefly medical and communications staff, but the Christian Democrats' parliamentary floor leader, Wolfgang Schäuble, was quick to remind deputies that the soldiers might have to fight in order to defend their mission.

For the past few months, the German army had been training in the Bavarian mountains for this day and officers in the public gallery nodded enthusiastically when ministers defended their new role.

The opposition had previously managed to extract a promise that not a single German infantryman would be deployed in the Balkans because of the Third Reich's grim record in the region. But slowly, prodded by the international community and supported by a ruling from the Constitutional Court, the Bonn Government revised its position and is now closer than it has been in 50 years to having a full fighting force on a foreign battlefield.

Schäuble: soldiers might have to fight

Tears ran down the faces of some Green deputies yesterday. At an impassioned party congress at the weekend, Joschka Fischer, the Green leader, tried to persuade the delegates that their pacificism — in the face of mass murder of civilians — was no longer tenable.

Strong voices of dissent from some of Mr Dole's closest allies, as well as rivals for the Republican presidential nomination, came as Mr Clinton sought backing for the deployment of US troops from three former Presidents and General Colin Powell, the popular former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

The 53 Republican senators remain split over an issue that has brought strident criticism from many of their constituents, who believe Bosnia is Europe's responsibility and of no vital American national interest.

Many Republican politicians have also objected to Mr Dole's insistence that the United States be responsible for arming and training the Bosnian Muslims, which they say conflicts with the terms of the Dayton accord, due to be signed in Paris on December 14. A splinter group of two dozen conservatives, including Phil Gramm, the Texas senator who is Mr Dole's leading rival for the presidential nomination, are calling for a chorus of opposition to the American deployment.

Although this is unlikely to prevent final backing for the resolution, it means Mr Dole will rely heavily on Democratic votes at a time when rivals are jostling to eject him as the Republican frontrunner for the White House.

While Mr Clinton is not required to gain congressional consent for the mission, his Administration is eager to secure the blessing of Capitol Hill and, with it, a certain political cover. Mr Clinton reinforced his message yesterday, saying that the "peace would fail" and "Nato [be] shaken to its core" if America did not take part.

☐ **Paris:** President Chirac yesterday threatened Serbia with military and diplomatic retaliation unless two French pilots, believed held by Bosnian Serbs, were released safely.

M Chirac telephoned President Milosevic and warned him that if the two pilots were not returned, "France will be forced to draw the necessary conclusions", a statement issued by the French President's office said.

A presidential spokesman said M Chirac had bluntly told the Serbian leader that France would take tough measures, including military action, against Serbia unless the men were returned. *(AFP)*

A US Air Force sergeant consoles his wife as he prepares to leave for Bosnia

Disney sued for loss of innocence

From Giles Whittell in Los Angeles

OF ALL the dangers children face on the mean streets of Disneyland, the greatest, it seems, is to be forced to watch Mickey Mouse undress.

In a lawsuit filed against the Californian theme park, a grandmother is seeking unspecified damages for the emotional distress inflicted on her three grandchildren when they saw Disney characters removing their costumes.

Billie Jean Matay, 52, along with her extended family, had just been robbed at gunpoint in the Disneyland car park. Her grandchildren were being questioned about the valuables they had lost when they appear to have lost their innocence as well.

They were exposed, in the words of the lawsuit, "to the reality that the Disney characters were, in fact, make-believe".

The suit does not specify which of the Disney gallery of human-scale caricatures were disrobing at the time; the roster has expanded in recent months to include baboons and hyenas based on characters in *The Lion King*.

Legal action against Walt Disney over the distress of seeing carefully wrought fantasies collapse is not unprecedented. In 1990 an Idaho couple reached an out-of-court settlement after alleging their children had been traumatised by the sight of "cast members" carrying their costumes' detachable heads.

WORLD SUMMARY

Mandela demand to Nigeria

Johannesburg: Senior officials from the Organisation of African Unity were scheduled yesterday to meet Nigeria's military ruler, General Sani Abacha, and demand the release of political prisoners, the first phase of President Mandela's re-worked initiative to restore civilian rule (Inigo Gilmore writes).

Salim Ahmed Salim, Secretary-General of the OAU, was charged with delivering a message from Mr Mandela calling for the reopening of dialogue, stalled since the hanging of Ken Saro-Wiwa.

The demands include release of former military ruler General Olusegun Obasanjo, jailed after an alleged coup plot, and Chief Moshood Abiola, who won annulled presidential elections.

Crash of Baku plane kills 49

Baku: A Tu134 passenger aircraft which crashed after take-off in southwest Azerbaijan left 49 people dead and 33 wounded, airline officials said. The aircraft crashed after an engine failed on Tuesday night in a mountainous area about six miles from the airport in Nakhichevan on a flight to the capital, Baku. It was the second air crash in the country in less than a week; a Boeing cargo plane crashed trying to land at Baku, killing two crew. *(AP)*

Tamil Tigers reject amnesty

Colombo: Sri Lanka's Tamil Tiger separatists yesterday dismissed President Bandaranaike Kumaratunga's offer of amnesty for those who lay down their arms, saying they did not wish to submit to domination by the army. Lawrence Thilakar, Paris-based spokesman for the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, said the rebels had no choice but to "continue with the resistance against military occupation" of the northern rebel stronghold of Jaffna. *(Reuter)*

Papandreou tracheotomy

Athens: The condition of Andreas Papandreou, the Greek Prime Minister, has improved slightly, according to doctors at the Onassis Cardiac Hospital. His kidneys are showing signs of recovery although he continues to need dialysis, and medical staff decided yesterday to go ahead with a tracheotomy to ease his breathing. But the daily bulletin on the Socilaist leader, 76, said he was still critically ill.

Punjab bomb injures 22

Ludhiana: At least 22 people were hurt when a powerful bomb exploded in a marketplace in this northern town in Punjab. The state has been troubled by rebel Sikhs fighting for a separate Khalistan homeland. No group claimed responsibility for the blast yesterday. *(Reuter)*

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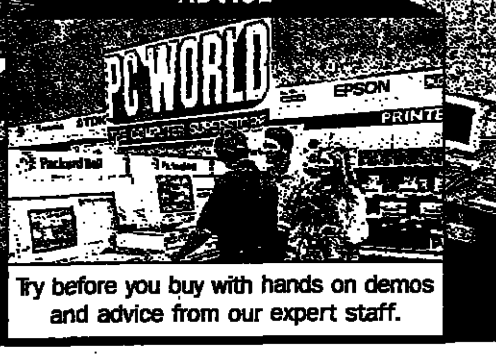

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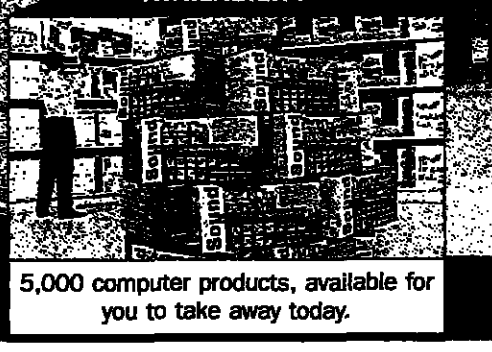

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Unions step up war on Juppé's welfare cuts

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

STUDENTS, teachers and public-sector unions will take to the streets of France again today in what may be the fiercest challenge so far to the Government of Alain Juppé, the Prime Minister.

Battle-lines in the escalating labour dispute hardened yesterday as President Chirac pledged his support for welfare reforms. The unions, in turn, accused M Juppé of stonewalling and vowed to step up their action in opposition to the changes.

Teachers, airline staff and hospital workers are today expected to answer the renewed call for strikes, as a devastating public transport stoppage reaches its 14th successive day.

Striking students held meetings with union leaders on Tuesday night and agreed to co-ordinate mass demonstrations today in Paris and other French cities.

"We will relaunch the protests," Marc Blondel, leader of the powerful Force Ouvrière union, said yesterday. "Many organisations will join tomorrow's strike, especially schoolteachers and public sector unions." More than half a million people demonstrated across the country on Tuesday and the response to today's call for strikes and rallies will be a critical measure of whether the protest is dwindling, static or, as its leaders claim, gaining momentum. "This will make Tuesday's demonstrations look puny," Olivier Fréaysse, a Force Ouvrière official, predicted.

On Tuesday night the Prime Minister told the nation he would stand by his welfare reform package, while adding that he was prepared to consult unions over the volatile issue of civil service pensions.

Blondel: support from teachers expected today

Most unions have reacted furiously to M Juppé's stand. Force Ouvrière and the Communist-led CGT called for renewed strike action and protests.

While the Prime Minister has talked of "dialogue" and "consultation", he has studiously avoided suggesting that he is prepared to haggle over the main planks of his plan to overhaul the social security system and reduce deficits in time for monetary union.

"Juppé has made an offer of discussions which have nothing to do with negotiations," the CGT said in a statement, after adding its voice to today's strike call. "We cannot negotiate reforms," Jacques Toubon, the Justice Minister, said.

In a Cabinet meeting yesterday, M Chirac praised M Juppé for standing up to union pressure and expressed his "full support for the position laid out by the Prime Minister". As he prepared to fly to Baden-Baden for today's Franco-German summit, M Chirac faced a new negative opinion poll. The latest survey, published on Tuesday, gave the President an approval rating of 28 per cent, a new low. As both sides entrenched their positions, the battle turned uglier. Defending his welfare plan before parliament, M Juppé accused his detractors of lies and demagoguery and for the first time serious violence erupted in the streets.

After mass demonstrations, youths in Paris, Nantes and Montpellier fought running battles with riot police, burning cars, smashing windows and hurling stones. In a suburb of Paris, a man drove his car into protesting school students.

The students, striking over demands for additional funding, may be the linchpin of the dispute. Government sources say privately that, if they can be placated, the heart will go out of the protest, but if fresh violence erupts at today's rallies the entire movement may be inflamed.

Cracks are emerging among the protesters. Force Ouvrière and the CGT have called for the scrapping of the Juppé plan, but Nicole Notat, head of the moderate CFDT, the largest union, welcomed the opportunity to discuss welfare changes.

Nanny State, page 17
Travel news, page 23

A cyclist in Paris plans a route through the traffic jams

Embassy staff check in for the duration

Many Parisians stranded by the French transport strike have taken to sleeping at their places of work, a distinctly unpleasant prospect unless you happen to be employed by the British Embassy.

Reflecting the true spirit of the Blitz, Sir Christopher Mallaby, Britain's Ambassador, has offered to put up in his sumptuous official residence those embassy staff who cannot get home.

The Hôtel de Charost on the Rue du Faubourg Saint Honoré, built in 1722, purchased by the Duke of Wellington in 1814 and one of the most elegant buildings in the city, is no ordinary boarding house. The chandeliers are unrivalled, room service wear epaulettes and the wine cellar is the envy of the diplomatic corps.

Several of the embassy staff, unable or unwilling to struggle home through the vast traffic jams paralysing the city, have taken up the offer to slum it in the ambassador's residence, where one of the principal attractions is a mirror belonging to Pauline Borghese, Napoleon's sister, who lived there before Wellington. She had become somewhat stout and had the distorted mirror designed to make her appear more svelte. You cannot find the like at the Holiday Inn.

The embassy held out during the Prussian siege of 1870 and the German occupation, and staff are well trained in turning away uninvited guests. In 1944, a Nazi officer knocked on the door and demanded the keys to the residence in the name of Goering. He was bluntly informed by loyal French servants of the Crown that the building belonged to Britain and the door was shut in his face. He never came back.

The spirit of co-operation in these strike-battered times only goes so far. A rash of bicycle-muggings has been reported, apparently by pedestrians who cannot take the strain of walking to work any longer and simply appropriate the first set of wheels they see, regardless of whether someone is already aboard.

Similarly, motorists have been encouraged to pick up hitch-hikers, but sometimes with unhappy results. *Libération* reported the case of a Mlle Arlette, who picked up a hitcher on the Champs-Elysées, only to find that her passenger had a rather extreme notion of sharing.

At every red light the passenger invited more pedestrians to climb aboard, with cries of "Come on, there's lots of room!"

The atmosphere inside the car became rather tense and after a very few miles the hitch-hikers found themselves back on the pavement.

Parking in Paris was always open to individual interpretation, but since most restrictions were lifted, motorists have taken to leaving their cars wherever they want: sideways in the middle of the street, on bridges and even on the steps of the Opéra.

With Paris transformed into one enormous car park, it has become almost impossible to tell where the traffic jams end and the parked cars begin.

Parisians have started to stockpile basic commodities, but as the season of goodwill approaches with a distinct lack of it in the air, sales of traditional French Christmas fare such as foie gras, truffles and snails have dropped sharply. Their producers fear that if the strikes persist they may have to lay off staff.

But these are revolutionary times, and as Marie Antoinette might have said: "Let them make cake".

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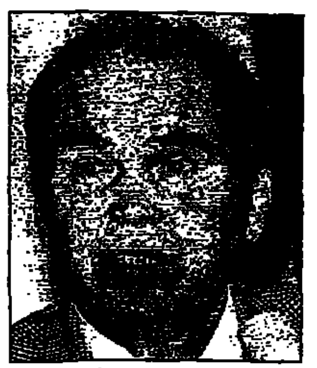
Military historian who put Bolshevik era's leaders in the dock dies at 67



Volkogonov: Lenin was "like the Devil"

FROM RICHARD BEESTON
IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S unruly parliament stood in silence yesterday to pay its last respects to General Dmitri Volkogonov, the liberal parliamentarian, army officer and Russia's best known historian, who died on Tuesday night in Moscow.

In a message to the family, President Yeltsin praised the general's service to Russia and credited him with playing a leading role in starting the country's democratic reform process.

General Volkogonov, 67, died after a long battle against cancer but not before he had achieved his ambition of completing an entire history of the Soviet Union seen through the eyes of its main leaders from Lenin to Gorbachev. The work, which is expected to be published in the new year, is the culmination of an extraordinary career, first as a committed Marxist-Leninist serving in the Soviet Army, and later as a dedicated anti-Communist who exposed the worst atrocities of the Bolshevik regime.

In one of the last interviews he gave before his death, the former army officer looked back with some sense of accomplishment on his life, but also foreboding that the Communists he helped to defeat may be returning to power. "History has literally led me to a complete denial of all that I had been praying for my whole life," the historian told *The New York Times* this summer. "The only thing I can be proud of — the greatest merit of my life — is that I was able to alter fundamentally my views," he said. "I feel very happy that by the end of my life I have freed myself from this horrible nightmare, this primitivism."

General Volkogonov, who was raised as an orphan after his father was shot and his mother sent to the camps under Stalin, first openly challenged the State in 1983 when he completed a devastating biography of Stalin. Using his position as head of the Institute of Military History, the writer drew on secret archives which, for the first time in Russia, exposed the enormity of Stalin's crimes. Although the book was suppressed by the Communist Central Committee and only published in 1988 after Gorbachev had come to power, the general had by then already started work on another sensational project, a biography aiming to explode the myths about Lenin.

The book, which is still denounced by Russia's Communists as a heretical tract and banned in some hardline provinces, is widely regarded as his best work. "Lenin was the Antichrist, more like the Devil," General Volkogonov once remarked about the father of the Soviet Union. "All Russia's troubles stemmed from Lenin."

In his latest work, *Seven Leaders*, the writer again takes a swipe at the Soviet leadership, recording some intriguing historical tidbits. For instance, Stalin had been plotting the assassination of Tito, the Yugoslav leader, but died himself before the order was carried out. He reveals how Leonid Brezhnev kept a fascinating but "absolutely illiterate" diary during his 25 years in power, detailing his obsession with fast cars, guns and self-appointed medals. When Konstantin Chernenko died, his aides discovered among his personal effects a strongbox stuffed with cash.

Aside from his historical work, General Volkogonov has also had an active political life, first as a propaganda chief for the Soviet Army, later as a key aide to President Yeltsin. He oversaw the abolition of Communist Party control over the army, and more recently headed a commission helping to locate PoWs and MIAs from the Second World War to the conflict in Chechenia.

Liberals' quarrel boosts chance of early German poll

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

HELMUT KOHL, eager to present himself as a European anchor during the French crisis, was facing trouble yesterday within his own Cabinet and the real prospect that he may soon lose his liberal partner in government, the small, sickly Free Democrats.

Party sources say it is now certain that Günter Rexrodt, the Free Democrat Economics Minister, will resign. Herr Rexrodt, furious at the way he has been pushed aside by his own party colleagues, argued bitterly yesterday during an extended session of his party executive. The only open question at the end was the timing of his resignation.

It is likely to come before Christmas. Another Free Democrat member of the Cabinet, the Justice Minister, Sabine Leutheusser-Schnarrenberger, is expected to go; of the three Free Democrats in Herr Kohl's Cabinet, only the Foreign Minister, Klaus Kinkel, seems set to stay beyond Christmas.

The reason is clear enough. In March there are three crucial regional elections, and the Free Democrats have to present a more forceful image if they are to stay in power. If they collapse, their position in Herr Kohl's Government will be fatally weakened.

The left-wing faction of the Free Democrats, unofficially led by the outgoing Justice Minister, may well then try to take the party out of the Government and make common cause with the Social Democrats in the hope of winning new voters before the October 1998 general election.

Herr Kohl's party managers, though not the Chancellor himself, have responded by threatening to engineer an early election next spring. Latest opinion polls suggest that the Christian Democrats might just win an absolute majority in a premature general election — and that the Free Democrats would drop out of parliament altogether.

There is one added attraction of early elections: the subsequent round of voting would have to be held only in 2000, not in 1998, which would allow the Chancellor to go to the country unencumbered by the explosive issue of European monetary union and give him more time to groom a successor.

The replacement of the Free Democrat ministers is thus part of a complex calculation. The most likely candidate for Economics Minister is Count Hermann Otto Solms, a sharp-edged committed market liberal. However, the real power is still held by Theo Waigel, the Finance Minister, who is the single most decisive voice, after Herr Kohl, on monetary union, and indeed on many other European issues. Not everybody in the Christian Democratic Union of Herr Kohl is happy about this, and there may be an attempt to snatch the economics portfolio from the Free Democrats.

Certainly the unspoken etiquette of political in-fighting, established during 13 years of Herr Kohl's rule, is being rewritten. The tenure of the German leader may well be approaching its close, and he is increasingly bored with domestic quarrels.

The Chancellor's priorities are to save his European project and secure the re-election of the Christian Democrats. But the weakness of France seems to be threatening the first goal, and the weakness of the Free Democrats is jeopardising the second.

Helmut Kohl and Günter Rexrodt, who is expected to resign as Economics Minister, in the Bonn parliament yesterday

Labour rescues deal with Turkey

BY PHILIP WEBSTER
POLITICAL EDITOR

A *CUSTOMS* deal between the European Union and Turkey looked inevitable last night after Tony Blair helped to persuade European Socialists to drop their opposition.

In what officials in London were hailing as the Labour leader's first big diplomatic venture, he encouraged Labour MEPs and others in the Socialist group in the European Parliament to allow through an agreement which is an essential precondition to Turkey's eventual membership of the EU.

Mr Blair intervened after a personal appeal from President Chirac of France, senior figures in the American Administration and Tansu Ciller, the Turkish Prime Minister. The customs union, giving Turkey preferential tariffs and a much better trade deal with the EU, has been approved by the European Council of Ministers.

However, there was a serious threat that it would be rejected by the European Parliament, which has to ratify it, because of objections in the dominant Socialist group over Turkey's human rights record and its hardline treatment of its Kurdish minority. Labour's 62 MEPs make up the largest contingent in the 217 strong Socialist group.

MEPs are to vote on the trade agreement next Wednesday and with yesterday's decision it will now go through. It will give Turkey the closest ties to the EU of any non-member state.

M Chirac, senior State Department officials and Mrs Ciller told Mr Blair that if the deal did not go ahead it would play into the hands of Turkey's growing Islamic fundamentalist opposition and it might encourage the country to turn its back on the West.

Mr Blair sent Robin Cook, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, to Brussels for two meetings with the MEPs after winning assurances from Mrs Ciller that the Turkish Government would step up its human and democratic rights reforms, and not stand in the way of the entry of Cyprus into the EU.

Paris and Bonn paper over the cracks

BY ROGER BOYES

GERMANY and France today will draw up a letter setting out their vision of the future of Europe, which will emphasise the commitment of both to a change in EU voting.

Helmut Kohl and President Chirac are due to meet in Baden Baden for an unusually well prepared bilateral summit that is supposed to paper over the many differences between Paris and Bonn.

Diplomats said the letter would be sent to Prime Minister Felipe González of Spain, which currently holds the EU presidency and would try to reassert France and Germany's claim to be the motor of European integration. A French government spokesman yesterday said the Baden Baden meeting would be "particularly positive".

The summiteers are accompanied by a clutch of ministers who will try to break the deadlock on issues such as energy liberalisation and the Europol police network, but the main aim is to close ranks before next week's Madrid European summit and the inter-governmental conference next year. To that end the two leaders have developed selected extracts from the report of the so-called reflection group, which this week set out the scope for institutional change in Europe.

The broadest plank of agreement seems to be on the increased use of majority voting. In an interview last week, France's Minister for Europe, Michel Barnier, said: "We are very open to majority voting in virtually all areas ... I do not see how we can enlarge the European Union without changing the way we vote."

The Baden Baden letter is clearly destined to upset Britain, since London is set against any extension of majority voting. A German official hinted yesterday that the two leaders would consider ways of building bridges with Britain to ensure that it was not entirely isolated.

"We do not need another Margaret Thatcher-like crisis," said the official. "There is common ground with Britain on some issues which cannot be neglected if we are to make a success of the IGC."

One approach is a reform allowing several EU members to take on foreign or military initiatives and discuss it broadly within the Union. The actions could then be clothed as a European initiative. It is thought that Britain might be interested, since that would fall some way short of the feared integration of the Western European Union into the European Union.

William Rees-Mogg, page 18
Leading article, page 19

Troops burn villages

Harare: Zambian paramilitary police were deployed to restore order to a district in the northern Copperbelt province after troops set fire to ten villages, killing two people, to avenge the death of a soldier killed by civilians in an earlier brawl (Jan Raath writes).

Police said yesterday that another 30 people were being treated for bayonet wounds inflicted by some of the 300 soldiers from the Lukanga training camp near the town of Kapiri Mposhi. They also destroyed crops and left 2,000 huts blazing on Monday night. One civilian was burnt to death after being trapped in his hut.

Uganda threat raises risk of war with Sudan

FROM SAM KILEY IN NAIROBI

PRESIDENT Museveni yesterday brought Uganda closer to open war with the Arab-dominated regime in neighbouring Sudan after he threatened to launch commando against "Christian" rebels launching incursions into Uganda.

Mr Museveni, a former guerrilla leader, demanded that Khartoum's Islamic regime disband the rebels from the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), and that they be expelled from Sudan.

"If they do not do so ... and if they again send criminals to kill villagers in northern Uganda or plant mines, we may be forced to launch commando raids into southern Sudan to deal with those bandits," Mr Museveni said.

His public threats brought Kampala and Khartoum closer to ending the proxy war they have been fighting in southern Sudan since October, and may signal that an alliance of Sudan's southern and eastern neighbours against the Islamic regime may soon go on a war footing, with the secret encouragement of Britain and America.

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Dog and bone disease

MEDICAL BRIEFING

◆

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

IF THE Andrex puppy limped across the floor as it chased the unravelling roll, it could spoil the advertisement, but it would not be particularly surprising. Dogs, particularly retrievers, can suffer dysplasia of the hip. Less well known is another cause of a limp in puppies, the orthopaedic disease, osteochondrosis.

In this disease the cartilage covering the ends of the bone in the joints of some of the larger breeds of dogs can become flaky, so that the articular surface is worn and patchy. Within a year or two the dog is crippled by osteoarthritis. Dr Susan Guthrie, formerly lecturer in orthopaedics at the Royal Veterinary College, is publicising the problem, so as to encourage the screening of those breeds which are liable to it. Dr Guthrie hopes that once diagnosed the dogs will not be used for breeding.

Although osteochondrosis is relatively more common in people than dogs, and other animals, it is even less well known in humans than it is in veterinary medicine.

There are minor differences in the form the osteochondrosis takes in humans: there is no obvious genetic link, but it can be equally disabling. The disease is a non-inflammatory, non-infectious disruption of the cartilaginous epiphyseal plates which are the sensitive growing areas at the ends of the bone. Possibly the damage stems from an interruption to the blood supply to the epiphyses.

The effect of the disease is to soften the ends of the bone so that they become distorted by the ordinary movements of the joint and the weight of the body. In a ball-and-socket joint, the ball loses its curvaceous outline so that it no longer sits snugly into the socket, with the result that the joint is subjected to uneven wear and the shiny articular surface soon becomes eroded.

As with the puppy, so with the child: osteoarthritis occurs in early adult life and joint replacement may become necessary. In children, the hip joint can be damaged by osteochondrosis. The condition, known as Perthe's disease, attacks boys more often than girls, and usually starts at primary school age. The symptoms progress insidiously, with the child complaining of increasing tenderness over the hip and pain on movement. This pain may be referred to the knee. The patient develops a progressively worse limp.

After some years, the bone hardens up and if weight has been kept off it, the final shape of the end of the bone may not preclude a functioning joint. If no effort has been made to spare it — by the use of traction, slings and increased rest — its abnormal moulding will cause lasting disability.

The spinal joints are those most commonly affected by osteochondrosis. The affliction known as Scheuermann's disease is a frequent cause of round shoulders in adolescence and arthritis of the spine in middle age. Osgood Schlatter's disease describes a similar condition which attacks the knees.

Perils of taking the plunge

IN THE film and the book *The Go-Between*, the lusty young farmer habitually stripped off and swam in the small lake in the park of the grand house.

It was a hot summer and the farmer, refreshed after a heavy day in the harvest field, then felt fit to go and play cricket or continue with his seduction of the squire's daughter. So much for fiction.

In reality, according to a report in the *British Medical Journal* by a team of research doctors from the National Institute of Public Health and Environmental Protection in Bilthoven, in The Netherlands, the farmer would have been very likely to have developed *Otitis externa*, an unpleasantly itchy and discharging ear.

Swimming in stagnant lakes in hot weather is a sure way of infecting the external ear canal, as well as the lobes and outer ear, with the bacteria *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. The more often somebody swims in the water, the greater the risk.

Recurrent risk after skull injury

LAST WEEKEND, Princess Michael of Kent was taken to her local hospital after suffering concussion in a hunting accident. The Princess, like other patients who have been seen in hospital with minor head injuries, will have been advised on being discharged to return should she develop vomiting, a severe headache, unusual drowsiness, limb weakness or convulsions.

The *British Medical Journal* reports on research by three South African doctors who have analysed the cause of any symptom which prompted re-attendance at the hospital after a head injury, and have found that in an alarming 14 per cent of cases there is a serious, life-threatening reason for the return.

The authors suggest that when possible, all re-attenders should be scanned. If a scan is not possible, any patient who can be shown to have a fracture of the skull, has had a penetrating head injury or any specific sign of brain damage or loss of consciousness should be seen by a neurosurgeon.

Why short children can now stand tall

Children who are small for their age need not have to take growth-promoting drugs, says **Dr Trisha Greenhalgh**

ZEFA

Parents who are worried about the height their child will be as an adult can be reassured using growth charts

SAM IS A BRIGHT, healthy and confident six-year-old. His mother burst into tears in my surgery last week. "There are two Sams in his class," she said, "and they're known as 'big' and 'little'. The teacher even referred to him as 'little Sam' on his school report."

At the moment, Sam experiences no teasing or overt discrimination. I wish I could reassure his parents that this will always be the case. Growth specialist Linda Voss has found that among American college students both sexes viewed short men as relatively insecure, timid, submissive, and lacking in confidence.

These prejudices would appear to carry over into the job market. Other studies described by Dr Voss in the current issue of the *Journal of Medical Screening* showed that when asked to choose between two hypothetical candidates, 72 per cent of employers "hired" the taller. Tall men in America earn an average of $600 per inch of height per annum more than their shorter but equally well qualified contemporaries. Deans of universities are taller than heads of provincial colleges, managers taller than clerks, and bishops taller than preachers. And in 80 per cent of past presidential elections, the taller candidate has won.

In one laboratory experiment, short subjects were shown to be especially unwilling to conform when pressured to do so by taller ones, perhaps demonstrating the aggressiveness which has been termed the "Napoleon complex". In the light of such findings the question which concerns most parents is how short will their child be as an adult? A knowledge of the underlying genetic, physiological and environmental causes of a child's short stature can allow a close estimate.

Fewer than one short child in ten has a true deficiency of the pituitary hormone which promotes growth, although almost all children will grow taller if their growth hormone levels are boosted artificially.

Nutritional deficiency — either dietary or due to malabsorption of certain foods from the gut (most commonly from coeliac disease) — can often be corrected: in some cases rapid growth occurs after appropriate treatment. Conversely, inherited conditions associated with short stature, such as Turner's syndrome (a missing X chromosome) or achondroplasia (maldevelopment of the growth plates of the long bones) have a poor prognosis for final height. Children whose growth was retarded *in utero* ("small-for-dates" babies) usually catch up some, but not all, of their lost height.

Short parents usually produce short children, and parents who had a late adolescent growth spurt can expect their children to do the same.

Children who go through puberty early are often tall for their age at the time but will become relatively short adults. This is because the surges of sex hormones which trigger pubertal changes (including the adolescent growth spurt) also trigger fusion of the epiphyses — the growth plates at the ends of the long bones — after which further growth in height is impossible.

In this country, the height of all children is measured regularly at routine medicals by health visitors, GPs and school nurses. Each reading is plotted on a graph which maps the expected pattern so that any fall-off in growth can be spotted immediately. The child's growth velocity — the rate of change in height — should be calculated from accurate height measurements taken at intervals of at least three months.

Normal short children follow a growth pattern below, but parallel to, the average; those who are ill, malnourished, or have a genetic abnormality are continually falling further below the expected growth line.

Unusually short children may be sent for X-rays (often of the hands) to determine how close their growth plates are to fusing (bone age). A short girl of ten with a bone age of a six-year-old can be reassured that there is more growth to come; but if her bone age equals or exceeds her chronological age she will probably never catch her peers.

The Royal Ballet School makes use of bone age when it asks talls girls to have X-rays of selected bones before allowing them entry to the school. The Princess of Wales, who harboured a childhood dream to be a prima ballerina, and was busy opening the new English National Ballet School yesterday, would have proved too tall at 5ft 10½ in.

For every two children who have a physical or genetic cause for short stature, there is one who has a psychological or social cause. Babies and young children deprived of love and stimulation fail to thrive as surely as those deprived of food. In extreme cases a child's height chart can show periods of normal growth when placed with a foster family and a slowing of growth when returned to a neglectful parent.

In the 1980s, growth hormone was liberally prescribed to children with short stature whatever the underlying cause. Each dose was extracted from the pituitary glands of thousands of human corpses, some of which harboured the fatal Creutzfeld-Jakob disease. Some parents in the UK are now living with the knowlege that they unwittingly traded their child's lost inches for delayed-onset paralysis, dementia and early death.

Mindful of this tragedy, Sam's parents are reluctant to expose him to growth-promoting drugs, even though the human growth hormone administered today is genetically engineered and is, theoretically, entirely safe.

It is not only possible, but quite common, for short children to overcome their potential psychological disadvantage and to equal or outperform their taller peers. This accords with the personal experience of doctors, teachers and parents — that while shortness is a clear handicap for some children, many, like Sam, seem to take it in their stride.

Human growth hormone, even when its purity is guaranteed, is not a panacea. To consider its use in a short normal child may create a problem where none existed.

SMOKING

High dose patch trial

NICOTINE patches are now widely used to help smokers quit the habit. The patches, which stick to the skin, are impregnated with nicotine which diffuses across the skin into the bloodstream, to alleviate the smoker's withdrawal symptoms. Trials have shown that patches are effective, and doses of about 20mg of nicotine appear to help the average smoker. But should heavy smokers be offered higher doses to help them quit? New research from the Mayo clinic in Minnesota suggests that they should.

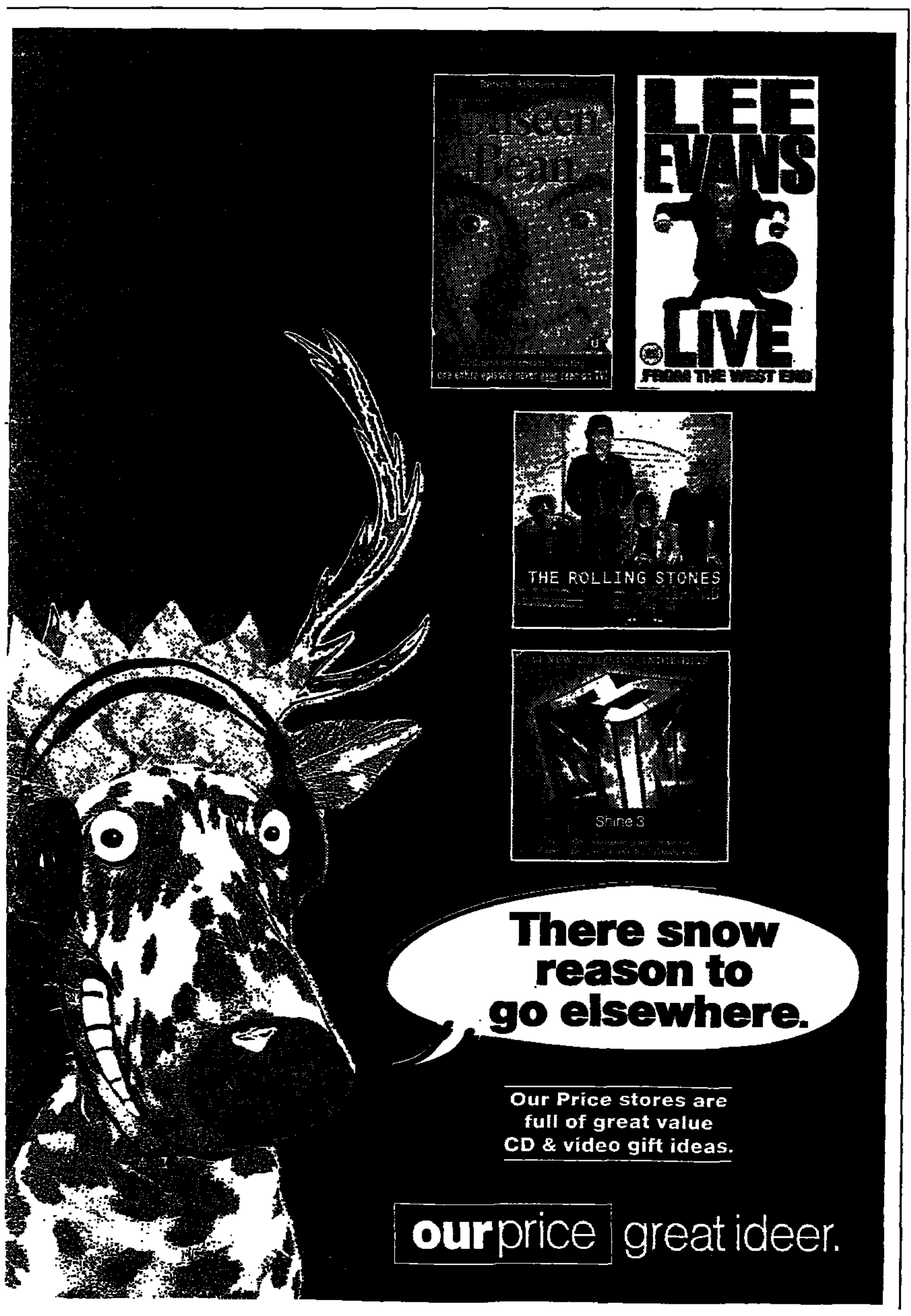
In a group of 70 smokers, the Mayo researchers tailored the dose in the patch to the individual's smoking habit. The heaviest smokers, who received 44mg daily, described fewer withdrawal symptoms and had a better quit rate.

But the value of the higher dose is not certain, as a second study from Wisconsin, published alongside the Mayo work, didn't replicate its results.

Dr Kieran Sweeney

INSIDE SECTION 2

Kipling for Christmas: a superb new staging of *The Jungle Book* opens in London. Review, page 39



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Love and loneliness, by the Bond girl who got away

The woman who was Miss Moneypenny for 23 years tells **Julia Llewellyn Smith** why she feels cheated

Lois Maxwell, the original Miss Moneypenny, has every intention of seeing *Goldeneye*, she thinks Pierce Brosnan will make an excellent James Bond and she wishes her successor, *Samantha Bond*, the best of luck.

Yet the Canadian actress is miffed that despite being as essential to Bond as fast cars and Russian villains, her fame never brought her more than pin money. "Miss Moneypenny wore her own clothes for the first five films," she says sniffily. "I'm sure Samantha got more for one appearance than I got for my 14 put together."

Her irritation goes deeper. Maxwell, 68, was a penniless widow, struggling to bring up two children, when she suggested to the Bond producer Cubby Broccoli that the spymaster M should become a woman, with Moneypenny being promoted to the role. The idea — which came years before Stella Rimington's appointment as head of MI5 — was at first rejected. But then Judi Dench was cast in *Goldeneye*.

"I really feel rather annoyed about it," she says, in her languid baritone. "It was my idea and it should have been me."

In 23 years of Bond, Maxwell said fewer than 200 words and her total time on screen was an hour. Yet her role as the spinsterly secretary, forever ticking off James for his lateness, has become the stuff of legend. "I don't believe Moneypenny was so dull," she says. "I decided that years before, when she was in the typing pool and James was the teaboy, they spent a passionate weekend at his Aunt Caroline's cottage in the country and this coloured their whole relationship."

James metamorphosed from Sean Connery via George Lazenby into Roger Moore, and Moneypenny mooned over each one of them. Maxwell is equally hard pressed to say which Bond she found the most attractive: "I loved them all. I always say I would like Roger to be my husband and Sean to be my weekend lover," she chuckles, dragging on her cigarette.

While Moneypenny spent lovelorn years stuck behind a typewriter, Maxwell's exploits could have come straight from the pen of Ian Fleming.

"I'm very adventurous and always have been," she proclaims. "I think my sister really dislikes me, because she's done nothing with her life. She's a dull Canadian woman and all she's ever done is have four children."

Maxwell was born Lois Hooker, and brought up in Toronto the second daughter of a nurse and a teacher. "My father was very strict. We had a very intellectual childhood, sitting down to read books and having our speech corrected."

Moneypenny in love: with Connery and Bond girls

The war came, and Maxwell decided to join the Canadian Army Show. "I was nearly 15 and you had to be at least 18 to join but I managed to slip through the net. I was treated like a precious jewel; nobody was allowed to swear in front of me and I was forbidden to wear skirts."

They toured England in the back of a truck, but when the show was sent to Italy the army discovered that Maxwell was only 17 and decided to send her home. She went AWOL and wangled a scholarship to RADA. "I was extremely poor, I lived in a garret in Paddington and got amoebic dysentery."

At 20 she won a Hollywood contract and made her screen début opposite Ronald Reagan. "He was a darling to me." Unhappy at being pushed about by the studios, she moved to Rome, where she stayed for five years, fell in love with the brother of a prince, and returned to England, her heart broken. "After that I thought I would never get married. I decided to be a charming old maid and to be everybody's godmother."

Yet two years later, in true Bond-girl style, she met her husband, a television executive Peter Marriott, at a French airport, when he offered to carry her makeup case. "I found him a place to live in Mayfair and he telephoned me and said I must be the first person to come and have a drink there. I was going out with someone else at the time, but I called him and said: 'I'm not going to have dinner with you tonight, I'm never going to have dinner with you again.' I went out with Peter, we danced until 4am and that was it.

"Peter was 6ft 6in. He always dressed beautifully and he had such presence. Cubby Broccoli wanted to test him for the Bond part, but I said 'Don't do it, you're such a bad actor'."

They had been married four years and had two children, Melinda and Christian, when Marriott suffered a massive heart attack. "It was the scariest time. We didn't have any money and I thought he would die, so I desperately phoned every producer and director I knew, saying I would play anything. The first person to get back to me was the James Bond producer, who offered me Moneypenny."

It was a run that lasted from *Dr No* in 1962 to *A View to a Kill* in 1985. Marriott died in 1973, leaving his wife virtually destitute. She returned to Toronto, where she wrote a newspaper column and became a businesswoman, importing fabrics and then, after losing her shirt in the 1980 crash, supplying crowd control barriers. "I would have loved to have done more acting, but Moneypenny had left me typecast," she says.

"I would have liked to have remarried, but frankly, I never met anyone who turned me on. Canadian men were so gauche. I went on a date with a reader from my column and he just sat staring with his mouth open. So I was making remarks about the restaurant, saying it reminded me of a little place I knew in Barcelona, and suddenly he stood up and shouted 'Are you trying to intimidate me? I've never been more than 20 miles outside Toronto and I'm proud of it'. I said 'I'm so glad for you', paid for my dinner and left. After that I wasn't prepared to try again."

DAVID HOWELLS

Moneypenny, retired — Lois Maxwell's real-life exploits could have been penned by Fleming

Last year, she moved back to England to be near her daughter, and found a house in the sleepy Somerset town of Frome. It is exactly the sort of place where the unassuming Moneypenny might have retired. Yet Maxwell's taste for adventure remains unabated. In Rome she became an amateur racing driver, and went under-water fishing for octopus, which she cooked and ate.

Over the years she has acquired a pilot's licence, gone regularly on safari and, eight years ago, she sailed from Hong Kong to Singapore, armed with M16 machineguns and incendiary rockets to see off the pirates of the South China Sea. "Oh, I'm pretty handy with a machinegun," says Miss Moneypenny, looking me straight in the eye and laughing a deep, rumbling laugh.

Bureaucracy infiltrates every aspect of the Gallic life

Harassed by the pregnancy police

KATE MUIR

WE ARE living in the dying days of the Fifth Republic, in the country once known as France but now so destroyed by general strikes, raging rhetoric and rioting students that it bears no relation to the pleasant Michelin-starred country once favoured by the holidaying British.

Outwardly, society is manifesting all the typical traits of a festering regime — there are riot police on my corner day and night, smashed windows across the road, power cuts, food shortages, and a grumpy, downtrodden people in ugly overcoats, tired of hitchhiking in traffic jams.

But it is only after living in Paris for two months that I am able to report on the dark underbelly: how the invisible tentacles of this totalitarian — or possibly nanny — state affect the ordinary citizen.

My suspicions were first raised when I took my ten-month-old son to state nursery school. As I handed him and his bottle in for the morning, the woman behind the front desk barked: "Name, rank and number." Then she explained his rank was P, for "*petit*", his number was 336, and these must be quoted every time I booked him in for a morning.

But there is more state interference than merely renaming your baby "*petit garçon* 336". When I was interviewing the Paris-based actress Kristin Scott Thomas, she mentioned that she was not allowed to enter her children's primary school without an identity card "which I can never find so I have to carry my British passport with me everywhere I go".

The final Orwellian touch came when a friend who is expecting her first child next month informed me that she has fallen foul of the "Pregnancy Inspectors". She works for a French television company, and back problems late in pregnancy forced her to stay at home for two months on sick pay. Her plans for afternoons on the sofa reading, interrupted by lunches with girlfriends, were crushed by the might of the Gallic state.

An official told her she was only allowed outdoors between the hours of 10am to noon and 4pm to 6pm. At any other hour, day or evening, a Pregnancy Inspector could call unannounced at her home. Lunches out and late dinners *à deux* were illegal.

> 'Lunches out and late dinners à deux were illegal'

On day two, she had an osteopath appointment that did not fall within the official hours. With Big Mother-like instincts, the Pregnancy Inspector came by, and reported her as delinquent to headquarters. She phoned to explain, and a woman boomed: "You are now under our control. All appointments must be within the official hours." When she had to move house, the removal men were even required to slot into her official free hours.

Chafing under the petty controls of her *grossesse pathologique* (problem pregnancy), she decided to visit her mother in England for a week. Not a simple task. "I had to get permission — three forms stamped in three places, at different ends of Paris. It took an entire morning. I was exhausted."

Fortunately, when she returned to France on the Eurostar train, she did not carry any illegal political material, or she might have been prevented from entering the country. This was what happened recently to a group of Danish schoolchildren who arrived at the Gare du Nord wearing "Chirac — Non!" T-shirts, against the nuclear tests. The customs told them to cover up or strip off before entering Mother France.

GROWING up under authoritarian rule, in times of political unrest, is curious. For instance, P336 spends every afternoon like this: he goes to the park or sandpit, and on his way home he passes a demonstration on the Boulevard St Germain. Nice men from the Force Ouvrierè union or striking electricity or transport workers — whoever is protesting that day — sing songs, give him red balloons or little flags, and he claps in delight.

P336 is beginning to say "vee vee vee" as well as burbling "ba", "da" and "ma". Obviously his first word will be "Vive" followed swiftly by "la Revolution". He knows no better.

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The wrong man to lead us at Nato

The new Secretary-General has a long record as a fierce critic of the Alliance, writes **Bill Cash**

The appointment this week of Javier Solana, the Spanish Foreign Minister, as Secretary-General of Nato illustrates much of what is wrong with present day political manoeuvring and the lack of clear thinking, not only in an increasingly confused European Union, but also in an increasingly dangerous world.

It is not possible or right to separate or overlook the long-standing attitudes of those appointed to such sensitive posts. Nato is about to commit 60,000 troops to Bosnia — 13,000 from Britain and 20,000 from the United States.

On November 20 I wrote to the Foreign Secretary enclosing expert analyses from within Spain itself which were highly critical of Señor Solana. Having received no reply, I then raised the issue with John Major at Prime Minister's Questions in the House of Commons on November 30. I asked the Prime Minister if he would consider vetoing the prospective appointment of Señor Solana on the grounds that he had "expressed views against Nato and nuclear deterrence".

This was described by Tristan Garel-Jones (the former Minister of State at the Foreign Office) in his article in *The Times* on December 5 as a "wrecking question".

> 'Solana is a socialist who has a record of opposing Nato'

The Prime Minister carefully replied that, from information he had received, "that most certainly is not Mr Solana's view". He added that he did not know what he may have said in the past and that I may have seen quotations of which he was not aware. I therefore took up the implied invitation to provide further information and passed this on to the Prime Minister this week. This included letters written to President Bill Clinton and Warren Christopher by 34 congressmen and by Senators Jesse Helms and Bob Dole, who all strongly opposed the appointment of Señor Solana.

These letters stated that "Mr Solana is a dedicated socialist with an extensive public record in opposition to Nato". They referred to news accounts that Señor Solana was a major figure in the early 1980s movement opposing Spain's entry into Nato and reports that he was one of the key architects and negotiators of a 1980 accord between the Spanish Socialist Party and the Government of the Soviet Union which promised that Spain would not enter Nato if they came into power. They recognised that, while Mr Solana may have subsequently changed his public position toward Nato as the platform of his party changed, his record of hostility is impossible to overlook.

They referred also to the referendum held in Spain in 1986 under the Socialist Government, of which Señor Solana is and was then a member. The text of that referendum stated that the Spanish Government "considers it appropriate in the national interest for Spain to remain in the Atlantic Alliance and that her membership be on the following bases:

- ● Spanish participation in the Atlantic Alliance will not include its accession to the integrated military structure.
- ● The prohibition of installing, storing or introducing nuclear weapons on Spanish territory will be maintained.
- ● A progressive reduction of the military presence of the United States in Spain will be maintained.

A total of 52.5 per cent of those voting supported the referendum; 40 per cent stayed away from the polls. The referendum is still valid and another would be necessary to change this binding commitment, not only on Spain but also on Señor Solana.

There are many other reasons why Britain should have vetoed his appointment, including the issue of Gibraltar and our continuing troubles with Spain over fishing rights. Moreover, on any reasonable assessment, the González Government, including Señor Solana is likely to be turfed out of office next March by the Spanish electorate.

At the inter-governmental conference in 1996 the relationship between the Western European Union and Nato and the pressure for a common defence policy under the aspirations of the Maastricht Treaty (Title V), to which the British Government is totally opposed, will be crucial issues. Chancellor Helmut Kohl has great influence with Felipe González and his terminally sick Government. Germany is determined on a common defence policy, which she sees as fundamental to her drive for political union, to which Britain is equally opposed.

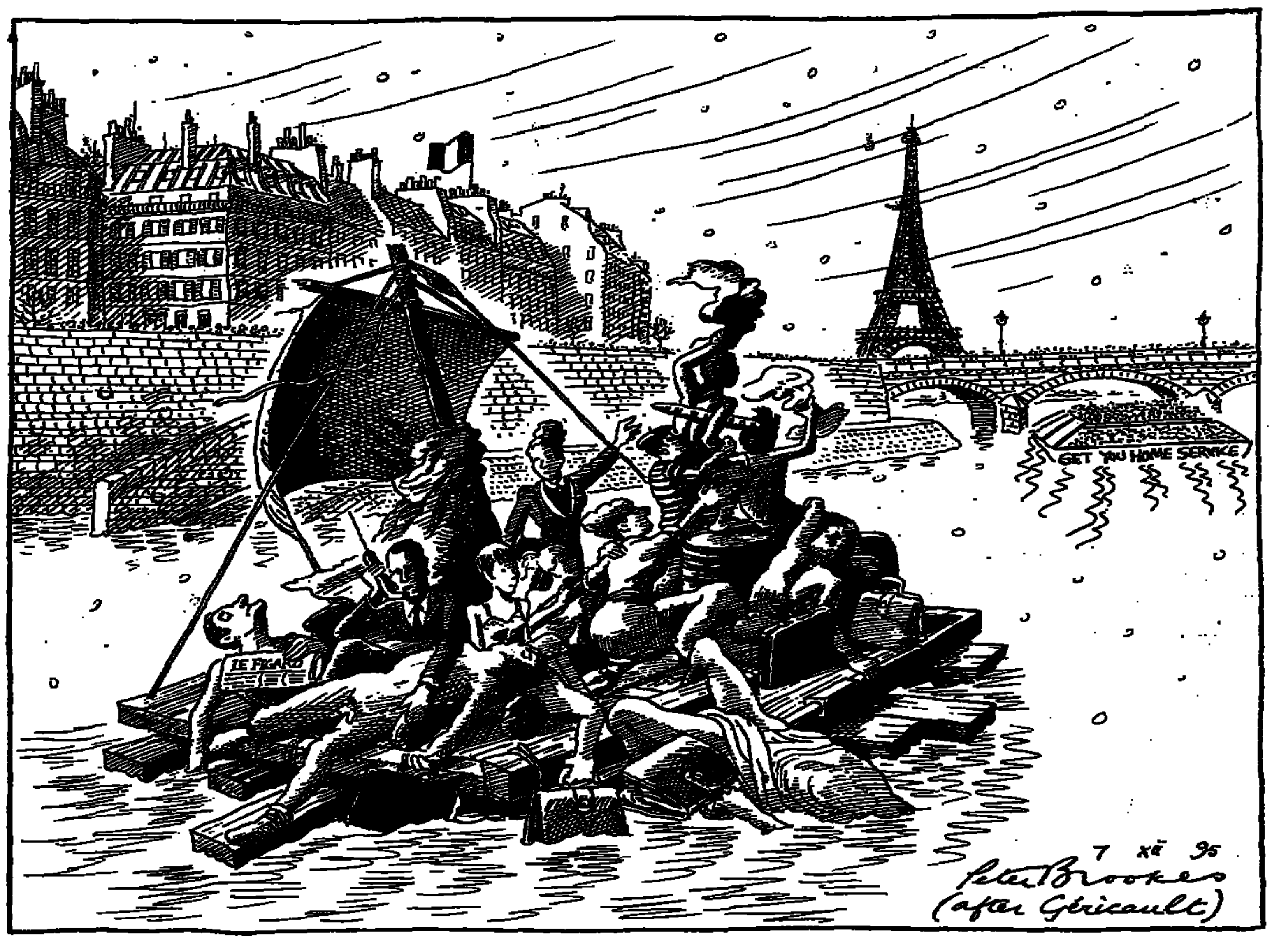
Just at the very moment when the British Government is about to announce a White Paper on the future of Europe for which I have been calling for several years, it fails to veto the appointment of Señor Solana. Only a few days ago, he is understood to have asked if the common foreign and security policy, including defence, should be drawn into the full panoply of European integration with majority voting.

This is the time for a Secretary-General of Nato who would take steps, with all the influence he can muster, to prevent German designs for a common defence policy — not for a man whose track record would point in the opposite direction.

Britain did not support the Danes when they said "No". Britain gave in last year over qualified majority voting and the appointment of Jacques Santer was no better than that of Jean-Luc Dehaene — why has the Government refused to veto Señor Solana?

The Reflection Group paper published this week, with all its fudging, still promotes the "objectives agreed at Maastricht", which include "the eventual framing of a common defence policy".

● *The author is MP for Stafford*



A Europe going nowhere

The Maastricht dream is becoming a nightmare for Germany and France

William Rees-Mogg

Today's meeting between President Jacques Chirac and Chancellor Helmut Kohl at Baden-Baden is the most difficult Franco-German summit in years. The French strikes threaten the Juppé administration, the *franc fort* and the European Monetary System. Germany is critical of President Chirac, whom the German press seem to regard, in Al Haig's memorable phrase, as a "duplicitous bastard". Such are the amenities of special relationships. Germany and France know that the main European policies of their alliance hang in the balance, and neither likes what it sees ahead.

The French commentator François de Closets coined the phrase "La France Schizophrène" to describe the present French state of mind. He defines it as "a loss of contact with reality and a progressive deterioration of adaptation to the environment". Strangely, this echoes the current German view of France's attitude towards Europe. The celebrated Schäuble-Lamers position paper for the CDU of September 1994, which introduced the concept of a "core Europe" ended by putting a "clear and unequivocable question to France". "It must rectify the impression that, although it allows no doubt as to its basic will to pursue European integration, it often hesitates in taking concrete steps towards this objective — the notion of the unsurrenderable sovereignty of the Etat Nation still carries weight, although this sovereignty has long since become an empty shell." The Germans even then suspected the French of being Gaulliste wolves in federalist clothing.

The French strikes are actively supported by the French Left, which is in theory more federalist than the Gaulliste Government. Yet these are strikes against the Maastricht policies of convergence, against the European Monetary Union, against the *franc fort*, against the high interest rates, high taxes and high unemployment which are the necessary conditions of France's European policy. Danielle Mitterrand, the wife of the former President, has said that these strikes "are the signs of cracks in a system we condemn", that they are "a way of saying: enough of this world of which we want no more". Yet the world she wants no more is the world her husband designed.

To understand the pressures on France, one has also to analyse Germany. The School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University has recently published a special review on "The New Germany in the New Europe". Two of the papers are particularly interesting. Both are by distinguished German commentators, writing from a German perspective. They both show an appreciation of the weaknesses of the German position.

The first is by Norbert Walter, the managing director of Deutsche Bank Research. He still believes that "only European political union can lead to a bright future for Europe"; in this he is a typically orthodox German Euro-federalist. Yet his view is pessimistic.

> At DM19.30 per man hour in 1993, incidental wage costs in Germany were higher than any other country in the world. Nearly half these costs can be traced back to payments required under government regulations, especially for social insurance . . . many German goods have been losing their uniqueness with respect to quality, dependability and service . . . Germany imposes probably the highest tax rates on corporations. At almost 65 per cent, the top tax rate on retained corporate earnings is 40 per cent higher than in the US, and almost double the rate of the United Kingdom . . . an employee paid at the lowest collectively negotiated wage scale has a marginal tax rate of 50 per cent . . .
>
> Germany also suffers from an 'innovation crisis' . . . industries with little or no comparative advantages in Germany still hold important shares in the economy . . . the explanation lies in the high subsidies which these sectors receive. In West Germany, for example, subsidies of DM120,000 [£55,000] per coalminer are paid annually . . . patents in the sectors where Germany is already lagging behind — data processing and electronics — continue to fall . . . Germany's contribution to inventions in the field of bio and genetic engineering is also marginal . . . the fundamental weaknesses . . . result from over-regulated, ossified markets and from a state sector that takes too large a proportion of gross domestic product — today almost 50 per cent . . .

There is more in the same vein. This critique of the Germany economy is similar to what I have been expounding in *The Times*, but I have been considered alarmist or even, quite wrongly, as anti-German. Neither Dr Walter nor I underrate the continuing strengths of the German economy or its importance to Europe, but the great European locomotive does have these serious problems of competitiveness. Germany, like France, is suffering from Euro-sclerosis. Between 1979 and 1990, Britain, with a weaker economy, tackled the Anglo-sclerosis which Margaret Thatcher's Government had inherited; France and Germany still have the job ahead of them. France is meeting aggressive and determined social resistance. There is no sign that either the German electorate or the workforce is psychologically prepared for this necessary phase of economic reform, or for the reduction in social costs. In this area, nothing is gained without pain.

The second interesting contribution comes from Professor Hans-Peter Schwartz, who discusses the option of a two-speed Europe. He rightly observes that "in Germany, federalists show a mistrust and aversion towards the United Kingdom in general, which explains the CDU sympathy for a core Europe". I do not doubt the truth of that. German Euro-federalists regard Britain as the main obstacle to creating a single European state, and dislike and despise us for failing to share their ambitions, just as they now distrust President Chirac.

Professor Schwartz reveals in detail the attitudes of the main European countries. He considers that Maastricht "has politicised Europe's integration process" and that "a significant deepening should not be expected", both because of British and Scandinavian reluctance and because "Italy and Spain are completely absorbed by their economic crises and disintegrating domestic policy". The CDU's "core Europe" alternative therefore depends entirely on France.

Professor Schwartz was writing long before the French strikes. Even then he thought that France was not willing to accept the political implications of a federal Europe, but, he says, it "appears to be picking out the raisins in the cake for itself (Bundesbank, Bundeswehr, armament)". He concludes that "France, Britain and the Scandinavians are not proving to be likeminded partners interested in pressing ahead, with deepening as a federalist objective . . . Maastricht . . . has led into a danger zone which has not yet been overcome". He also notes that "a public opinion poll shows more than two thirds of the German electorate oppose European Monetary Union". So the Maastricht project now leads nowhere, and an extremely high price has been paid.

At Baden-Baden, President Chirac and Chancellor Kohl will both be contemplating defeat. President Chirac's is the simpler and the more immediate. The need to meet the Maastricht convergence criteria has pushed the Juppé administration into a war on all fronts at the wrong time. The parallel is Ted Heath in 1973, not Margaret Thatcher after 1979. Margaret Thatcher prepared her ground and isolated her enemies; Alain Juppé has failed to prepare and has united his enemies.

Chancellor Kohl has discovered that he cannot create a broad European federation on the German model, because Britain and Scandinavia do not want it, and Italy and Spain are in too weak a condition to support it. He also feels the stirrings of German reluctance to exchange the mark for an undoubtedly inferior European currency. He suspects President Chirac of being a raisin-picking pseudo-European who wants to have his share of Germany's strengths without any true federal commitment on the French side. He sees that the first attempt to reform the French welfare system is blowing French society apart. Who would wish to federate with people who resort so easily to anarchy? He knows that Germany's own economic strength can be restored only if Germany goes back to work and abandons the national ambition of a 30-year working life of four-day weeks on a seven-hour day at the highest pay on earth. But this means that the central theme of Chancellor Kohl's European policy is collapsing. Baden-Baden looks no better for him than for President Chirac.

Philip Howard

■ So Raffles is a New York airport baggage handler

Most crime is disgusting, wretched, incomprehensible or catatonically boring. It probably always was. So the Duchess of York is to be congratulated on restoring class to man's second oldest activity. The theft of her diamonds conformed to the archetypical crime plot. This is a foundation text of fables and detective fiction that stretches back to Ali Baba, Jezebel, Herodotus and the nursery of storytelling.

In this, number seven of the ten prototype plots, the diamonds should be worth a king's ransom, or at least a queen's wedding-present. They should have a romantic past. If they cannot have adorned the head of a Hindu idol, the Windsor bottom-drawer will do. They should belong to a beautiful, unattached and enigmatic lady. The Duchess passes at least two of these tests. She should be aristocratic, so that her necklace has a handle, as in *The Eustace Diamonds*, and the public can feel pity but not terror that she will be reduced to a cardboard box by her loss. There may be even a bit of *Schadenfreude* about the fabulously rich losing a fabled bauble. The theft of a diamond necklace is more of a victimless crime than fraudulently dealing in derivatives, because duchesses can stand their loss better than pensioners.

The Duchess even had the tact to get the attendant circumstances and minor players spot-on. It adds genre colour for snow to be gusting horizontally as Raffles, the gentleman-burglar in evening dress, swarms effortlessly up the drainpipe. The lady's maid should naturally be distraught, and it helps to have an exact timetable for the theft. Times for checking in baggage, plane taking off and landing, baggage being unloaded will do nicely for Poirot or contemporary plotters of little grey graphics in newspapers. Romantic interest, such as a divorced husband or Texan financial consultant, should hover in the background. There is always a mystery. Why take the necklace and bracelet, but leave behind the matching earrings and ring.

The pattern of these diamond necklace capers is formulaic. In the first modern detective story the heroine suspects that her lover may be the thief of *The Moonstone*. A century later in *To Catch a Thief*, Grace Kelly similarly suspects her suspicious lover, a retired cat burglar. "Why should I steal, I'm rich?" Cary Grant asks. "How did you get rich?" "By stealing."

From Captain Thomas Blood, the Irish cracksman to whom Charles II gave a job in admiration for his attempt on the Crown Jewels, to *The Pink Panther*, that pratfall between Raffles and Mr Hulot, life imitates diamond-necklace larceny and vice versa. Diamond theft forms a stock theme for the professor emeritus of detectives, because it can be presented as a high-life and relatively harmless crime. Sherlock Holmes could hardly tackle a low-life crime such as drug-smuggling, for he liked a fix himself.

But his adventures run on diamonds. *The Mazarin Stone*, which Holmes recovered, was named after Cardinal Jules Mazarin (1602-1661), and Lady Frances Carfax was abducted for her curiously cut diamonds. Without diamonds, Holmes would have had a practice as quiet as Watson's.

Now, most carefully upon the hour of the tradition, *The Holdall of the Duchess's Diamonds* has a happy ending. The bracelet is found in the locker of John F. Kennedy airport rather than Paddington station. The thief who has confessed has a suitably *mafiosi* name. The sleuths include a former Detective Chief Superintendent at Scotland Yard (Lestrade made it only to inspector) and gumshoes from the Hudson General Company. Do not suggest it is coincidence that they are named after the long-suffering landlady of 221B Baker Street. At the gem of revelation and panache at the end of *The Adventure of the Six Napoleons*, Watson records: "Lestrade and I sat silent for a moment, and then, with a spontaneous impulse, we both broke out clapping as at the well-wrought crisis of a play. A flush of colour sprang to Holmes's pale cheeks, and he bowed to us like the master dramatist who receives the homage of his audience."

The Duchess can blush with shared pleasure as we clap for the recovery of her diamonds and the return of glamour to crime.

THE TIMES DIARY

Hat trick

THE BASEBALL hat worn by the Princess of Wales on her mercy mission to a hospital last week attracted more attention than the Queen Mother's titfer at Ascot. The riddle posed by the numbers "492" sent fashion and sports commentators to their catalogues to establish their significance.

The latest hypothesis has it that the numbers are a code for "Dib", which is an abbreviation of the nickname given to the Princess by James Hewitt during their dalliance. When he was in the Gulf during the war, she would sign off her letters to him as "Dibbs", while addressing him as "Winkie".

Hats off to the Princess

The code was cracked by a member of Mensa, Moyra Borg, who drives taxis in Cambridge. She says that the numbers relate to the fourth, the ninth and the second letters of the alphabet — D.I.B.

The theory bears consideration, for the Princess has employed similar tricks in the past. During the *Panorama* interview, she was wearing a blazer with buttons bearing the coat of arms of the Prince of Wales. Court observers suggested that this meant she wanted to hang on to royal trappings. Could the riddle of the hat signify that she still burns a candle for the bounder Hewitt?

Close call

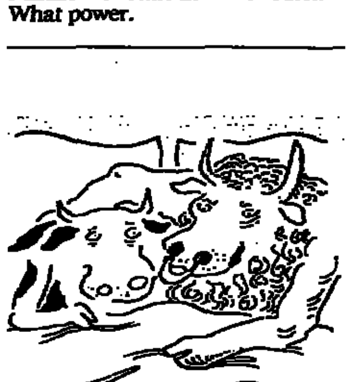
AT HEATHROW, they'd classify the incident as a near miss. But at the Ritz Hotel in London yesterday there wasn't a murmur when Baroness Thatcher missed Lord Lawson, her former Chancellor, by a whisper.

The empress sailed down the corridor of the Ritz in a black dress and scarlet silk scarf with Lady Wakeham, Sir Tim Bell and other friends for lunch in the main dining room. Lawson had been holding court in the corridor seconds beforehand but had turned about sharpish for a quick exit.

Privy counsel

THE FULCRUM of political power in Britain, if we are to believe Lord Archer, is the lavatory. The pince-nezed peer claims he managed to get the Transport Secretary Sir George Young reinstated to the Government only after a chat with John Major in the loo.

In the magazine *The Printer's Devil*, he recounts how a throwaway remark to Margaret Thatcher — "promote him or release him" — got Sir George the sack. Later, he explains, he made amends. "I told him [John] the story. I was sitting on the upstairs lavatory where he was shaving. He had said, 'Come upstairs, I've got to shave'. I told him the whole story and he immediately made him Minister of State in the Cabinet." What power.



"Trust me; I'm safe. Everybody says so"

● *Andrew Roberts, the girthy author of* Eminent Churchillians, *is jubilant. His futuristic anti-European novel,* The Aachen Memorandum, *is to be turned into an opera by the composer David Hellewell. "Our hero could wear one of those Viking hats with horns on it," suggests the historian.*

Morrell duty

AFTER campaigning so tirelessly for John McCarthy's release, his former girlfriend Jill Morrell has found another cause. She has written a book on the Bridgewater Four in support of campaigners who want their convictions referred to the Court of Appeal.

Carl Bridgewater was shot dead aged 13 when he interrupted a burglary at Yew Tree Farm, Stourbridge, West Midlands, in 1978. Four people were imprisoned, one of whom has since died.

Santa cause

PRESIDENT Mandela has received the ultimate accolade — a present from the Prime Minister of Greenland of a life-sized statue of himself dressed as Santa Claus. It comes with a title conferred on Mandela by Greenland of International Santa Claus of the Year.

Nelson Mandela as Santa

Mandela is said to be bemused by the preposterous sculpture but Prime Minister Lars Emil Johansen was unstinting in his praise. "It is a great honour for me, as the first representative of the real Santa Claus to present this award to the southern part of this planet."

P·H·S

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

MAN OF THE HOUR

A few words in Chancellor Kohl's ear

In search of allies, compromises and photo-opportunities, Prime Ministers criss-cross Europe ahead of next week's EU summit in Madrid and next year's re-negotiation of the Maastricht treaty. Yesterday, John Major swopped ideas with his Italian counterpart Lamberto Dini. This evening, President Jacques Chirac and Chancellor Helmut Kohl meet to launch joint proposals. But these prescriptions will not measure up to the problems which now threaten Western Europe. The only man with the stature to rescue Europe from disaster is Herr Kohl.

Few of the EU's leaders have truly adjusted to the revolution inside the EU countries over recent years. The paralysis of France is just the latest symptom. For the first thirty years of the EEC and EC, voters gave their politicians a blank cheque to "build Europe" in their name. When Chancellor Kohl and President Francois Mitterrand agreed in 1985 to increase the use of majority voting in the EC and then, in 1991, proposed that the EC should take powers over money, armies and crime, they lost that freedom, probably for ever.

Voters asked for closer control of what their elected leaders were promising in their name. The high French vote against the Maastricht treaty in September 1992 and the current marches and strikes are a warning that the two and a half years between now and the decision on which countries join the planned single currency will be turbulent — certainly on the financial markets, perhaps on the streets. The German Chancellor and French President believe that true leadership requires them to plough on.

Political classes worth their position should indeed lead. But leadership also requires that wisdom prevail over stubbornness. All Europeans must now hope that Herr Kohl can be brought to see that he is making a mistake on a tragic scale. It may be too much to expect President Chirac to admit that France needs the timetable for monetary union to be eased: the loss of face might be judged too great. But this is not too much to ask of Herr Kohl. For the sake of the entire Continent, the German leader should now acknowledge that his duty as a European statesman is to listen to public opinion and not to fight it.

We have long argued here that the single currency is economically unsound, politically divisive and should be abandoned. But Herr Kohl will neither want nor need to go that far. If he masterminds a postponement of the 1999 date for the single currency, he can ensure that the world's markets understand that, in agreement with France, he seeks a delay and not a cancellation. In an important signal earlier this year, he hinted that a two or three year postponement would not be ruinous.

Whether Germany likes it or not, it is Europe's central power and strongest economy. Herr Kohl, the Continent's dominant politician in the closing years of the century, has narrowed debate over Europe's future to a single proposition: integration must be made irreversible and monetary union is the means to this end. In convincing himself that Europe must create a monetary union before all else, Herr Kohl has locked himself into a cast of mind which threatens to drive Europe towards the very confusion and danger which Herr Kohl has dedicated himself to avoiding.

German public opinion remains stubbornly resistant to the single currency. French public opinion is hardly warming to the sacrifices involved. The British, Italian and Spanish governments will not argue if asked to postpone the new currency. If the Chancellor does not find these arguments persuasive, he should heed the signals from the governments to his east who wait to negotiate their EU entry and fear that single currency crises will distract the EU's leaders. In 1998 France and Germany are to hold general elections; all governments may still be ratifying Maastricht revisions: the key decisions on the creation of the single currency are to be taken; and talks with leading central European states might start. What will suffer in this overcrowded and unpredictable agenda? The east will suffer — and with it the essential security of Europe.

Finding effective ways to re-connect the two halves of the Continent is the most urgent moral task facing Europe's political leaders. Herr Kohl can tackle this challenge only by relaxing the unworkable currency timetable. By pursuing that obsession, he risks wrecking the Union itself.

SURVIVAL COURSES

School testing gives insights into pupils and teachers

National testing of schoolchildren has endured the assaults of both the teaching profession and its allies in the Labour Party. And it has survived: 1995 was the first year in which the full complement of tests for seven, eleven and fourteen year olds was administered. Yesterday, the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority released a report which provides some useful analysis of the outcomes of those first tests:

The report notes that at the request of teachers who had "complained of undue workload involved in marking the tests", SCAA last year introduced external marking. Nearly 13,000 markers were recruited and additional funding was made available to reduce the "administrative burden" of the test programme. Generations of parents who can remember a time when classroom testing was a routine part of a teacher's job, may well wonder at the expense of this external marking and supply cover — especially when the teachers' unions which demanded it as the price of ending their boycott of tests complain about levels of education funding. But if such spending was necessary to gain teachers' co-operation, it will have proved worthwhile.

This report offers the first opportunity to make any overall judgment of a mammoth experiment in assessing a generation of pupils and their teachers. What it states explicitly is interesting: even more so is what may be read between its lines. The comment that many children seemed to be overly reliant on the use of calculators to carry out mathematical operations will ring true to many parents. So too will the comment that children found mathematical problems involving a "multi-stage ordered strategy" difficult, presumably because an ability to deal with such problems requires rigorous structured teaching. If they served no other purpose, national tests would be useful in providing this kind of insight into the weaker areas of education.

A more subtle but equally useful finding is that while primary school girls did notably better than boys on reading comprehension tests which involved fictional passages, the boys performed better when the material was non-fiction. This leads to a helpful recommendation that the range of reading matter in primary schools should include "information" books likely to appeal to boys.

A telling aspect of the report is a recurrent theme in the remarks from teachers. In English, for example, "some teachers were concerned at the inclusion of a difficult poem that they believed would be inaccessible to less able pupils". In science, the provision of the extension test (designed for pupils to demonstrate the highest levels of attainment) was "queried by some teachers because of the very small number of pupils who sat it". In mathematics, the same doubts were expressed about the extension paper which was suitable for "so few pupils".

There is clearly still resistance among some teachers to stretching the brightest children. SCAA must resist this pressure. If a programme of national testing is to mean anything, it must provide for the full range of pupils' abilities — however rare the highest achievers may be.

THE RIGHT SUBSIDY

Loosen the rules for lottery money to the arts

Britain's subsidised arts organisations are gripped by a master whose split personality is causing alarm and problems. On some mornings the Arts Council — newly enriched by its vast share of National Lottery proceeds — can behave like a soft-hearted billionaire, tossing a cheque for £55 million to the Royal Opera House and spending millions more on other, less controversial, projects round the country.

On other mornings it must play the mad axeman. Last week it learnt that its government grant is to be reduced by £5 million: a small saving in government spending means that the Arts Council will have about 8 per cent less to spend next year, in real terms, on revenue funding for its clients.

According to current rules, the obvious cure to this disorder is not available. Lottery money can be allocated only for capital projects — building, restoring, renovating — not for the art that takes place inside those buildings. This is bad news for the orchestras, theatres and galleries already on the critical list. False alarms raised by claques of professional whingers are a regular performance in the arts: nonetheless the prospect of major companies being bankrupted in a matter of months is real.

What is particularly galling to people in the arts world is the public perception that they have done exceedingly well out of the lottery. Indeed they have. In vain do they protest that it is the "wrong kind of subsidy".

The wrong kind of subsidy must now be turned into the right kind. Arts administrators originally pressed for lottery money to be reserved for capital projects because they believed that the Government would then be forced to maintain its arts subsidy at a pre-lottery level. That belief looks even more naive now than it did at the time. The Arts Council has been given a sharp lesson in realpolitik, and must now sit down with the Heritage Secretary and devise new rules that will release some lottery funds for revenue spending.

Establishing endowments for companies with a proven record of artistic excellence is one strategy that has much to recommend it. An alternative would be to use lottery money to reward companies that make genuine attempts to broaden their audiences, particularly among the young. Whichever way is chosen, a change is needed urgently. The spectacle of a nation building new opera houses and art galleries, while letting its arts wither for lack of £5 million, would bring glory to no-one.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Better handling of 'mad cow' scare

From Dr H. C. Grant

Sir, In March 1989 you published a letter from me in which I warned that unless bovine brain was totally banned from human food or avoided we faced a new human health hazard in the form of an untreatable dementia (letters, December 5).

Nothing has changed since then: our pies, pâtés, stock cubes and tinned beef items are still infected with the sinister and indestructible organism, the scrapie agent. Not only has the November 1989 ban (on cattle brains being added to our "meat products") been poorly monitored in the abattoirs but calves' brains were never included in that ban and some calves are born infected.

The three standard MAFF proclamations aimed at reassuring the public are all based on faulty dogma. They are: "There is no evidence that BSE can infect humans" — of course there is no *direct* evidence: there cannot be until the next decade. And "Don't worry about BSE: we kill every infected animal" — they do not: they kill off every *visibly* infected animal. And "We have lived with scrapie for two centuries and it has not done us any harm, so BSE will not either". The reason scrapie has not done us much harm is that sheeps' brains were never traditionally removed to be added to human food whereas cattle brains were.

Yours faithfully,
H. C. GRANT,
10 Antrim Grove, NW3.
December 3.

From Mr Hamish Orr-Ewing

Sir, The Government has for many years required livestock farmers to record all cattle movements, from birth to slaughter, in a "movements book" which is subject to snap inspections by officials and subsequently filed by MAFF.

In the case of BSE however, MAFF records only farms where an animal has been culled as suffering from the disease, even if that animal came on to the farm only days before. No attempt is made to trace back through the movements records to identify the farm where the disease was contracted, and because of the long incubation period the originating herd may never have recorded an outbreak.

This omission makes any definition of a BSE-free farm a cosmetic farce.

Yours faithfully,
HAMISH ORR-EWING,
Fox Mill Farm, Purton,
Swindon, Wiltshire.

From Mr Andrew Sebire

Sir, Professor Sir Bernard Tomlinson seems to base his concern over beefburgers and other processed meat products on the assumption that they might contain offal (report, December 2).

This would appear to overlook the obvious fact that beefburgers (and pies) can be and often are made solely from the pure beef products which he does claim to eat.

The apparent imprecision in Professor Tomlinson's argument causes concern to those of us who produce high-quality meat products from BSE-free cattle and who wish to see the BSE issue handled sensibly, safely and without hysteria.

Yours sincerely,
ANDREW SEBIRE,
Lower Hurst Farm, Hartington,
Nr Buxton, Derbyshire.
December 4.

From Mr P. H. Coulthurst

Sir, "Staggers" is described in various dictionaries printed in the early 1990s as "disease of the brain in cattle causing a stumbling gait". Perhaps BSE has been with us for a long time.

Yours faithfully,
P. H. COULTHURST,
35 New Barn Lane,
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.
December 5.

Water shortages

From Mr Roger J. White

Sir, The failure of some water companies to provide adequate control of their leakage highlights a weakness of the arrangements that were made for privatisation.

The water companies claim to provide an economic level of leakage control, but all too often this is simply not true. The problem is that the so-called economies take no account of the loss of garden plants under a hosepipe ban or the general inconvenience and risk to health when supplies are restricted. The water companies take the same revenue for reduced supplies as they do for unrestricted supplies. The problem is compounded in some areas by the pressure on local managers to cut costs, with spending on leakage control an easy option for the cuts.

There is a simple answer to fit the managements which are driven by the bottom line of their accounts. The water companies should be required to pay substantial compensation for restrictions on supply. Compensation is available for other failures of service and should now be extended to the most fundamental service of all, the supply of water.

Yours faithfully,
ROGER WHITE
(Consulting water engineer),
Church Cottage, Pangbourne Hill,
Pangbourne, Berkshire.
December 4.

The challenges of replacing A levels

From Mr Andrew Morris

Sir, Mr Neil Sheldon, Surmaster of the Manchester Grammar School, argues convincingly that our ablest school students need to be better served by the 18-plus examinations ("Best for the brightest?", Education, December 1). May I make a similar point regarding less able students.

Mr Sheldon is right to point out that "increasingly, the purpose of sixth-form education is university entrance", but this trend is not helpful to the majority of children who, at 16-plus, have a choice of a limited number of courses or of leaving school altogether.

The GCSE is not necessarily suitable as the ultimate scholastic goal of a large number of students, many of whom feel that they would like to extend their academic education without the rigours of preparing for university entrance.

The death of the AO level more than a decade ago was a blow to many of these students, and the AS level is not an equal substitute. The alternatives seem to be either a broader and less rigorous sixth-form education, with extension papers for those seeking university entrance, or a two-tier system in which both tiers teach and examine the full range of subjects.

As David Charter points out, in his article alongside Mr Sheldon's, the Minister of State for Education has recently announced the extension of GNVQ subjects and the prospect of more to come. Will the Government be able, or ultimately wish, to afford this development, as it clearly means that more teachers will be required?

Alternatively, would the universities — particularly those in the "premier league", to which Mr Sheldon refers — support the notion of a broader curriculum and a return to university-set entrance papers?

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW MORRIS
(Director of Music),
Bedford School,
Burnaby Road, Bedford.
December 2.

From the Headmaster of Small Heath School, Birmingham

Sir, Is Neil Sheldon making a case or offering a public confession of failure to motivate?

He seems to assume that because more pupils are obtaining A grades at GCE A level the examinations must have become easier. This does not necessarily follow — it may be, for example, that more students are working harder or that teachers have become more effective in enabling students to master the requisite knowledge and skills, or both.

Whilst syllabuses are constantly evolving to reflect developments within subject disciplines, the examination boards are confident that their monitoring process has enabled them to maintain levels of academic rigour, irrespective of examination style.

Our universities are learning swiftly that third-rate degrees and courses will not satisfy the needs of an increasingly perceptive student market. By the same token, undergraduates are being left in no doubt by employers that they have ways of evaluating graduate qualifications — that quality counts.

Surely it is not beyond the wit of schools for the most able to generate motivation and create challenges to learn without such props as open-entrance examinations?

Yours sincerely,
CECIL KNIGHT,
Headmaster,
Small Heath School, Muntz Street,
Small Heath, Birmingham.
December 4.

From the Principal of the United World College of the Atlantic

Sir, As one who has been closely involved with the International Baccalaureate for the last 24 years I have frequently spoken critically of A levels, on the grounds that they are too specialised and that they exclude important areas of study for students restricted to two or three subjects. To learn that this gold-standard rigour is now suspect seems to undermine the last vestige of support that A levels could claim.

Certainly our students preparing for the International Baccalaureate are not bored or unchallenged. The programme is designed to provide both specialisation and breadth. Our science students are required to tackle languages and the humanities and vice versa, and not just to narrow down into their favourite subjects.

It is a challenge, but remarkably one that seems to provide enjoyment. Going from a physics class to a French class, to chemistry practical to a theory of knowledge discussion, seems to stimulate energy and enthusiasm, not dissipate them. RIP A levels.

Yours sincerely,
COLIN JENKINS, Principal,
United World College of the Atlantic,
St Donat's Castle,
Llantwit Major, South Glamorgan.
December 1.

Royal crowns . . .

From Mr Richard Rawsthorn

Sir, I doubt whether more than a handful of people knew of the crowns of George I and George IV (reports, December 4, 5). They would not have been missed if they had been shipped abroad without publicity. However, now that the media have got the story (and I doubt if the resultant hype will lower the price) the nation wrings its hands in dismay. Supposing the two crowns are kept in Britain, will the public at large remember them in a year's time?

The headline on your leading article today says: "The royal crowns of England are the purest national heritage." That remark about two long-forgotten baubles serves to remind us what nonsense the business of "heritage" is.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD RAWSTHORN,
Barcroft,
Cliviger, Nr Burnley, Lancashire.
December 5.

From Mr Andrew Aylwin

Sir, If ever there were a case for National Lottery funds being released to serve items of heritage for the country, then surely it must be the purchase of the three crowns currently residing at Asprey. A fine public relations coup for Camelot, too.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,
ANDREW AYLWIN,
27 Ellerton Road,
Wimbledon, SW20.
December 3.

. . . and royal jewels

From Mrs K. A. Campbell

Sir, A duchess . . . a lady-in-waiting . . . international air travel . . . missing gems . . . an unlocked bag . . . (report, December 6).

Hercule Poirot would have loved it!

Yours faithfully,
K. A. CAMPBELL,
19 Niton Street, SW6.
December 6.

From Ms Penny Scott

Sir, Surely the concern must be not that items went missing, but the possibility of what could have been added.

Yours faithfully,
PENNY SCOTT,
9 Chiswick Staithe, W4.
December 6.

Timor anniversary

From Mr Ian Linden

Sir, December 7 is the 20th anniversary of the invasion of East Timor by Indonesian troops.

Britain's supply of arms to Indonesia has undoubtedly fuelled the repression which has been a daily reality for the East Timorese since the invasion. Any protest has led to harassment, torture and death for an estimated 200,000 people from East Timor, for which Britain must share some moral responsibility.

Only a month ago, British-supplied Hawk jets flew over the capital, Dili, on the fourth anniversary of the Santa Cruz cemetery massacre, when around 250 East Timorese were killed. A lobby of Parliament tomorrow will call for Britain to impose an arms embargo on Indonesia to halt the bloodshed.

It is time for Indonesia to admit that its attempt to win East Timorese hearts and minds through the barrel of a gun has failed. Not only has East Timorese resistance to Indonesian brutality been unflinching, but international pressure is mounting for Indonesia to comply with a United Nations General Assembly resolution calling for its withdrawal from East Timor.

Yours etc,
IAN LINDEN (General Secretary),
Catholic Institute for
International Relations,
Unit 3, Canonbury Yard,
19a New North Road, Islington, N1.
December 6.

Oh dear

From Mrs Diana M. Lockyer

Sir, When my husband visited me and our newly born fourth son in hospital (letters, December 1, 6), he remarked: "This is certainly the ugliest child you have yet produced."

Afterwards, to my delight, one of the other mothers commented on our son's striking resemblance to his father.

Yours triumphantly,
DIANA M. LOCKYER,
3 Clarendon Road,
Broadstone,
Dorset.
December 6.

Rara avis

From Mr Anthony G. G. Lewis

Sir, A woodcock has just flown past my office window (across the road from the Tower of London) — last seen heading towards the Lloyds building. I hope it finds decent cover.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY LEWIS,
Sceptre Court,
40 Tower Hill, EC3.
December 6.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

Gem of an innings in Johannesburg

From Mr M. J. Dowsett

Sir, You compare Atherton's magnificent innings against South Africa with Gooch's triple century against India (leading article, December 5), dismissing the latter as a mere "turkey shoot".

The real comparison is with Gooch's unbeaten 154 in the first Test against West Indies at Headingley in 1991 which, given the circumstances in which it was played, has been described as the greatest innings in Test history.

Yours faithfully,
M. J. DOWSETT,
7 Lambs Close,
Kidlington, Oxfordshire.
December 5.

From Mr T. G. Rosenthal

Sir, In the justifiable euphoria over England's magnificent draw in Johannesburg perhaps we should reflect that, had Atherton performed the same Herculean feat while playing for Lancashire against Yorkshire, his county would have received no more points than if it had lost.

Those who lose in football get no points, while those who draw get one.

It is time that this anomaly in the county championship was removed and that those who draw should equally share, as happens in football, two-thirds of the points awarded for a win.

Yours faithfully,
TOM ROSENTHAL,
167 Gloucester Avenue, NW1.
December 5.

From Mr Ian Mitchell

Sir, How ignorant your leading article is of us denizens of the wasteland "north of the Border".

This "uncricketed people" not only boasts a very large number of cricket clubs, but has also, as a moment's thought would have reminded the perpetrator of this smug piece, produced more than one England Test captain.

Having kept up a habit of many years by following — just like "those in England" — the ball-by-ball commentary on the match on radio, I have to admit that I react to the interruptions for the *Daily Service* and *This Sceptr'd Isle* with a sad shake of the head and a quiet "How very English".

Much is made of the anti-English element in Scottish nationalism (to which I do not subscribe), but it has to be said that, sometimes, you ask for it.

Yours faithfully,
IAN MITCHELL,
76 South Mains Road,
Milngavie, Glasgow.
December 5.

From Dr Michael Waldman

Sir, In your December 5 issue I was delighted to find no fewer than three articles of interest to my sixth-form geologists. Encouraged by the discovery of such riches, I commented to the students on the considerable educational value of such an excellent broadsheet.

I then chanced upon your third leader, entitled "Cream of Manchester", the final paragraph of which began, with painful infelicity, "Atherton never looked like he would get out".

This presents me with a problem, for, in the event of having a pupil studying both English and geology, what do I now recommend?

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL WALDMAN,
Stowe School, Stowe, Buckingham.
December 6.

Sports letters, page 42

French strikes

From Dr Robert M. Bruce-Chwatt

Sir, Three cheers for the French! Despite the loss of wages and inconvenience, at least they still have the courage to let their Government know how they feel (reports, December 4, 5; leading article, December 4). Here we have suffered more and worse injustices from our own with not so much as a squeak.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT M. BRUCE-CHWATT,
York Lodge,
1 York Road, Richmond, Surrey.
December 5.

From Mr Anthony Martin

Sir, For the benefit of wavering Conservatives who may have forgotten the legacy of socialism might I suggest a visit to Paris to refresh the memory?

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY MARTIN,
Whitestone House,
Whitestone, Exeter, Devon.
December 4.

Emergency measures

From Mr D. W. Wright

Sir, On Monday there was a light dusting of snow in Tunbridge Wells, as a result of which my daughter's school closed early and the pupils were sent home.

Do Swiss children receive any formal education at all during the winter months?

Yours faithfully,
D. W. WRIGHT,
Hollin House, Court Road,
Tunbridge Wells, Kent.
December 6.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
December 6: The Queen, Colonel-in-Chief, was entertained to Luncheon this afternoon by the Officers of The Queen's Lancashire Regiment in the Officers' Mess, St James's Palace, and was received by the Colonel (Major General Scott Grant).

Her Majesty, Patron, later opened the Harrow Campus of the University of Westminster at Northwick Park and was received by the Chairman of the Governors (Sir Leonard Peach), the Rector (Professor Terence Burlin) and the Mayor of Brent (Councillor Gwen Tookey).

The Queen toured the campus, meeting governors and students, and viewed various displays and activities.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were represented by General Sir Michael Gow at the Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of the Very Reverend Dr Ronald Selby Wright (Extra Chaplain to The Queen in Scotland) which was held in Canongate Kirk, Edinburgh, today.

The Prince of Wales was represented by the Very Reverend Dr William Morris.

The Princess Royal was represented by Lieutenant General Sir Robert Richardson.

The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon was represented by Brigadier Iain Reid.

Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester was represented by Dame Jean Maxwell-Scott.

December 6: The Princess Royal, Patron, the National Autistic Society, today attended the "Take a Seat" event at the MGM Cinema, Gloucester.

Her Royal Highness, Patron, National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux, this afternoon visited the Stroud Citizens Advice Bureau, Brunel Mall, London Road, Stroud, Gloucestershire.

The Princess Royal afterwards opened a new office of the Department of Social Security in Cornhill Shopping Centre, Stroud, Gloucestershire.

CLARENCE HOUSE
December 6: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was represented by Major Sir Ralph Anstruther, Bt at the Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of the Very Reverend Dr Ronald Selby Wright which was held in Canongate Kirk, Edinburgh, today.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
December 6: The Prince of Wales, President, Business in the Community, this morning visited Hallwood Park, Runcorn, Cheshire, and viewed an exhibition of past and present buildings of the estate, met residents and toured the estate.

His Royal Highness, Earl of Chester, later visited Chester.

The Prince of Wales opened the National Tenants Resource Centre, Trafford Hall, Wimbolds Trafford.

His Royal Highness, President, The Prince's Trust, this afternoon visited Chester Fire Station and met young people taking part in the Volunteer Programme together with sponsors and fire officers who support the Programme.

The Prince of Wales, President, The Prince's Trust, later attended the presentation to the Trust of a cheque, raised by the Top Rank Organisation, at "Top Rank", Brook Street.

His Royal Highness, President, The Prince's Youth Business Trust, afterwards attended a meeting of the Trust's Advisor Network and met young businessmen at the Maryland Bank of North America.

The Prince of Wales this evening gave a Reception for the AMAR (Assisting Marsh Arabs and Refugees) Appeal at St James's Palace.

His Royal Highness, Patron, English College Foundation in Prague, subsequently gave a Dinner at St James's Palace.

KENSINGTON PALACE
December 6: The Princess of Wales, Patron, English National Ballet, this morning opened the English National Ballet School, Carlyle Building, Hortensia Road, London SW10.

Her Royal Highness, Colonel-in-Chief, The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment (Queen's and Royal Hampshires), this afternoon received Lieutenant-General Sir Anthony Denison-Smith (Colonel), Captain Richard Walch (Regimental representative, Royal Military Academy Sandhurst) and Officer Cadets being commissioned into the Regiment.

December 6: The Duke of Gloucester this evening attended a Reception to mark the 50th Anniversary of BJS Company Ltd (Electroplaters and Silversmiths) at Goldsmiths' Hall, London EC2.

YORK HOUSE
December 6: The Duchess of Kent this evening attended the British-American-Canadian Ball, Grosvenor House Hotel, Park Lane, London W1.

Mrs Peter Troughton was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
December 6: Princess Alexandra this morning visited St Catherine's Hospice, Lostock Hall, Preston, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Lancashire (Sir Simon Towneley).

Her Royal Highness, Chancellor, this afternoon presided at ceremonies for the conferment of Higher and Honorary Degrees and Postgraduate Diplomas at Lancaster University, and later attended a University Dinner. The Lady Mary Mumford was in attendance.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint the Reverend Canon Alan Craig, Rector and Rural Dean of Morpeth, the Venerable David Fleming, Chaplain General of the Prison Service Chaplaincy, and the Reverend Canon Roger Gilbert, Rector of Falmouth, Chaplains to Her Majesty.

Royal engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will visit Churchill China, Tunstall, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, at 10.15; the Queen will visit Bradley Village Sheltered Housing Scheme, Bradley, at 11.05; the Duke of Edinburgh will visit the Business Link Centre, Festival Park, Stoke-on-Trent at 11.05; the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will visit J.C. Bamford Excavators, Rocester, at 12.20; the Queen will visit Burton Hospital, Burton upon Trent, at 3.10; and the Duke of Edinburgh will visit the Carlsberg-Tetley Brewery, Burton upon Trent, at 3.10.

The Prince of Wales will visit the College of Estate Management, Whiteknights, Reading, at 2.25.

The Princess of Wales, as Patron of Centrepoint, will attend the charity's annual meeting at the Savoy Theatre at 10.45.

The Princess Royal, as President of The Princess Royal Trust for Carers, will attend a trustees' meeting at Buckingham Palace at 10.30; and will attend a luncheon with the Executive Committee of the Army Board at St John's Wood Barracks, N8, at 12.45. Later, as President of the Save the Children Fund, she will attend the Festival of Trees gala dinner at the Natural History Museum, SW7, at 7.30.

Princess Margaret, as Honorary President of the British Museum Development Trust, will attend a meeting of the council at the British Museum at 11.15; and, as Grand President of St John Ambulance, will attend the Order of St John Royal Sapphire Ball at the Dorchester hotel at 8.00.

The Duke of Gloucester will open the extension to the chief office of the Cheshire Building Society at Castle Street, Macclesfield, at 11.00; will open Wilmslow Health Centre, Chapel Lane, Wilmslow, at 11.45; will visit Tatton Park, Knutsford, at 12.30; and will open the display area at ERF, Sun Works, Sandbach, at 2.35.

The Duke of Kent will visit Chevron Aerospace, Nottingham South Industrial Estate, Wilford, at 11.15; will open the new headquarters of the Nottingham Health Authority, Standard Court, Park Row, Nottingham, at 12.15; and will present The Queen's Award for Export Achievement to Trinity College London at the House of Lords at 6.45.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr T.D.L. Beven and Miss L.C. Harrison
The engagement is announced between Timothy, son of Mr and Mrs Herbert Beven, of Boxford, Suffolk, and Lucy, daughter of Mr and Mrs Philip Harrison, of Hindon, Wiltshire.

Mr R.W.M. Brook and Miss E.M.G. Smith
The engagement is announced between Robert, son of Mr David Brook, of Barnstaple, Devon, and of Mrs David Keen, and stepson of Mr David Keen, of Corston, Malmesbury, Wiltshire, and Emma, daughter of Mr and Mrs Julian Smith, of Twyford, Hampshire.

Mr E.N.C. Chandler and Miss P.M. Quicke
The engagement is announced between Edward, second son of Mr and Mrs Richard Chandler, of Aller Farm, Somerset, and Penelope, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Edward Quicke, of Roystone Grange, Derbyshire.

Mr C. Craig and Miss M.S. Delgado-Dotor
The engagement is announced between Colin, eldest son of the late Mr and Mrs Frank Craig, of Troon, and Soledad, youngest daughter of Mrs Gregoria Dotor-Laguna, of Valdepenas, Spain.

Mr R.B.M. Heyworth and Miss S.P. Davies
The engagement is announced between Brian, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Michael Heyworth, of Bolton-by-Bowland, Lancashire, and Samantha, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Davies, of Broadway, Worcestershire.

Mr J. Longsdon and Miss F. Cassidy
The engagement is announced between James, eldest son of Colonel and Mrs R.S. Longsdon, of Southrop, Gloucestershire, and Fiona, daughter of Mr and Mrs I.A. Cassidy, of Ampney Crucis, Gloucestershire.

Mr J.L.St-P. Mansfield and Miss A.M.L. Stephens
The engagement is announced between John Lawrence St Pier, son of Major Stanley A. Mansfield, of Crawley, Sussex, and the late Mrs Josephine M. Mansfield, and Arabella Margaret Laura, daughter of Mr A.A. Roy Stephens, of Oxford, and Mrs Fiona K. Stephens, of Lodsworth, Sussex.

Mr A.J. Moore and Miss A. Bevitt
Mr and Mrs R.W. Bevitt, of Milton, Cambridgeshire, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Ann to Arthur Moore, son of Mr and Mrs A.R. Moore, of Boarstall, Buckinghamshire.

Mr N.S.J. Ritblat and Miss R.C.S. Willis
The engagement is announced between Nicholas Simon Jonathan, eldest son of Mr John and the late Mrs Isabel Ritblat (née Steinberg), of London, and Rebecca Claire Salisbury, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Willis, of Seale, Surrey.

Mr I.H. Turvill and Dr M. Morrison Bal
The engagement is announced between Ian, younger son of Mr and Mrs William Turvill, of Bexley, Kent, and Marlene, eldest daughter of Mr John H. Morrison, OBE, and Mrs Barbara Morrison, of Evanston, Illinois. They will be married in her home in Rochester, New York, on Christmas Eve.

Ball

British-American-Canadian Associates
Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Kent was the guest of honour at the 43rd British-American-Canadian Ball held last night at Grosvenor House. The guests included The Canadian High Commissioner, The Hon Royce Frith, QC, Lord Sherfield, GCB, GCMG, Lord and Lady Forte, Baroness Brigstocke, Mr and Mrs Robert Worcester, Lady Ramsbotham and Professor David Adams, Chairman of British-American-Canadian Associates. The Hon Sir Peter Ramsbotham, GCMG, GCVO, President, presided, and the Chairman of the Ball was Mrs Joan M.C. Baillie.

MICHAEL POWELL

The worldwide head of the Greek Orthodox church, All Holiness Bartholomew, Ecumenical Patriarch and Archbishop of Constantinople, officiating at Divine Liturgy yesterday at the Cathedral Church of the Divine Wisdom in Bayswater, London (Ruth Gledhill writes). The Archbishop was celebrating the feast of St Nicholas, patron saint of sailors and children and known otherwise as Santa Claus. The Patriarch, on a one-week visit to Britain as guest of the Archbishop of Canterbury, has had an audience with the Queen. He has visited Margate, Canterbury, Folkestone, attended Anglican evensong in Westminster Abbey and last night celebrated the Great Doxology in the Church of the Annunciation in Manchester. The Patriarch, elected in 1991, has faced the task of giving leadership to the Orthodox churches of Eastern Europe, emerging from Communist oppression.

Birthdays today

Sir Fred Atkinson, civil servant, 76; Mr Roy Avery, former Headmaster, Bristol Grammar School, 70; Viscount Boyd of Merton, 56; Mr Donald Crichton-Miller, former Headmaster, Fettes College and Stowe School, 89; Judge Lord Elystan-Morgan, 63; Mr David Evans, trade unionist, 60; Mr Kaffe Fassett, textile designer, 58; Professor Lawrence Freedman, war historian, 47; Professor Sir Abraham Goldberg, physician, 72; Professor N. Gowar, Principal, Royal Holloway, University of London, 55; Dr A.J. Higgins, director, Animal Health Trust, Newmarket, 47; Sir Bryan Hopkin, civil servant, 81; Mr Chris Joynt, rugby league player, 24; Mr Victor Kiam, chairman and chief executive officer, Remington Products Company, 69; the Countess of Limerick, former chairman, British Red Cross Society, 60; Mr Ivor Mills, writer and broadcaster, 66; Sir Sydney Samuelson, British Film Commissioner, 70; Mr Roger J. Taylor, group chief executive, Sun Alliance Group, 54; The Rev R.C. Trounson, former Principal, St Chad's College, Durham, 69; Mr Eli Wallach, actor, 80; Miss Helen Watts, opera singer, 68.

University news

Oxford: The John Potter Essay Prize 1995 has been awarded to Andrew William Michell, New College.

Dinners

City Livery Club
The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Lady Mayoress and the Sheriffs and their Ladies, was a speaker at a dinner of the City Livery Club held last night at Guildhall. Mr Charles Bowman, president, and Mrs Bowman received the guests. The Lord Chancellor, Alderman Mr Clive Martin, and the Commissioner of the City of London Police also spoke. Among those present were:

The Hon Peter Brooke, CH, MP, Sir Murray Fox, the Chief Commoner of the Corporation of London, Rear-Admiral Jeremy Blackham, Mr Alderman Roger Cork, The Master Cutler in Hallamshire, The Deacon Convenor of The Trades House of Glasgow, The President of the United Wards Club, The Masters of the Furniture Makers' and Insurers' Companies, the President of Ward of Cheap Club and Masters, past Masters and Clerks of other City companies.

Parish Clerks' Company
Mr J.C.B. Wittich, Master of the Parish Clerks' Company, assisted by the Rev Graham Blacktop and Mr O.W.H. Clark, wardens, presided at the annual St Nicholas dinner held last night at Apothecaries' Hall. Mr J.D. Hebblethwaite, parish clerk of St Benet Gracechurch, and Mr D. Wickham, Archivist of the Clothworkers' Company, also spoke.

Earlier the Rev John Paul was the celebrant and Brother Michael, SSF, the preacher at Holy Communion held at the Church of St Andrew by the Wardrobe.

Service dinners

Royal Navy Rugby Union
Rear-Admiral Neil Rankin, President of the Royal Navy Rugby Union, was a speaker at a dinner held last night by the union at the Royal Marine Museum, Portsmouth. Lieutenant-Colonel R.J. Williams, RM, chairman, presided. Admiral Sir Michael Boyce, Second Sea Lord and Commander-in-Chief Naval Home Command, and Rear-Admiral Desmond Callaghan were among the guests.

British American Forces Dining Club
The Hon Nicholas Soames, Minister for the Armed Forces, was the principal guest at a dinner of the British American Forces Dining Club held last night at the HAC, Armoury House. Major-General Edmund Burton, Assistant Chief of Defence Staff (Operational Requirements Land) and Major-General Tad Oelstrom, Commander 3rd US Air Force, presided.

The Royal Irish Regiment
Colonel J.D. Sankey, Regimental Colonel of The Royal Irish Regiment, presided at a Colonel-in-Chief's dining club dinner held last night in Portadown.

Knighthood

A knighthood is to be conferred on Mr Justice Langley on his appointment as a Justice of the High Court.

Memorial services

The Very Rev Dr Ronald Selby Wright
The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were represented by General Sir Michael Gow and Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother by Major Sir Ralph Anstruther at a service of thanksgiving for the life of the Very Rev Dr Ronald Selby Wright, Minister Emeritus of the Canongate (The Kirk of Holyroodhouse), and former Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, which was held yesterday at the Canongate Kirk.

The Prince of Wales was represented by the Very Rev Dr William Morris, the Princess Royal by Lieutenant-General Sir Robert Richardson, Princess Margaret by Brigadier Iain Reid and Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester by Dame Jean Maxwell-Scott.

The Rev Charles Robertson, Minister of Canongate, officiated. Mr William G Reid, Chairman of Scottish Boys' Clubs, Mr Malcolm Thyne (Headmaster, Fettes College) and General Sir Michael Gow read the lessons. The Rev Norman Drummond, Governor of the BBC, Scotland, gave an address.

The Right Rev James Harkness, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, pronounced the blessing.

The Bishop of Edinburgh and Primus of the Episcopal Church in Scotland was represented by the Right Rev Edward Luscombe and the Chaplain General was represented by the Senior Chaplain, Scotland.

The Lord Provost and Mrs Irons and the Convener of Lothian Regional Council attended. Among others present were:

Mrs Ray Kaye (sister), Mrs Thelma Fox, Miss Gina Kaye, Mr and Mrs James Coutts, Mr Harry Richmond.

The Duke of Hamilton, the Duke of Montrose, the Marchioness of Ailsa, the Earl and Countess of Wemyss and March, Lady James Douglas-Hamilton, Lord Ronald Graham, Colonel Lord Clydesmuir (Captain General the Royal Company of Archers and Gold Stick for Scotland) and Lady Clydesmuir, Lord Weir, Lady Dunpark, Lady Elizabeth Drummond, Sir Hew and Lady Anne-Louise Hamilton-Dalrymple, the Lord Lyon King of Arms and Lady Innes of Edingight, Lady Gow, Sir Charles and Lady Fraser, Lieutenant-General Sir Derek and Lady Lang, Lieutenant-General Sir Henry Leask, Lieutenant-General Sir Chandos Blair, Lieutenant-General Sir David Scott-Barrett, Lieutenant-General Sir David and Lady Young, Lieutenant-General Sir Alexander and Lady Boswell, Lieutenant-General Sir John MacMillan, Lady (Norman) Arthur, Colonel Chay and Dame the Hon Mary Corsar.

The General Officer Commanding Scotland and Governor of Edinburgh Castle and Mrs Hall, the Abbot of Nunraw, the Dean of the Chapel Royal in Scotland and Mrs Morris, the Very Rev Dr John Paterson, the Very Rev Dr J Fraser and Mrs McLuskey, the Very Rev Professor R Davidson, the Very Rev Dr David Steel, the Very Rev Dr James Matheson, the Very Rev Professor Thomas Torrence, the Very Rev Dr Roy and Mrs Sanderson, the Very Rev Professor and Mrs John McIntyre, the Very Rev Professor Robert Barbour, the Very Rev Dr William Macmillan, the Very Rev Dr William Johnston.

Mr Oliver Balfour (Vice Moderator of the High Constables and Guard of Honour of Holyroodhouse), Mr Charles Cadell (Baillie of the Palace of Holyroodhouse), Lieutenant-Colonel David Anderson (Superintendent), Brigadier Frank Coutts (King's Own Scottish Borderers) and Mrs Coutts, Colonel M B Ashmore (The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment)), Mr John Nisbet (Royal British Legion, Scotland) and Mrs Nisbet, Mr Keith Budge (Headmaster, Loretto School also representing Fettesian and Lorettonian Youth Club) and Mrs Budge, Mr John Light (Rector, Edinburgh Academy), Miss Margaret Drummond (Gordonstoun School).

Mr Michael Barratt (Headmaster, Rannoch School, Perthshire), Dr Judith McClure (Headmistress, St George's School for Girls, Edinburgh) with Mr Roger Collins, Mr Alan Bateman (Headmaster, Cargilfield School, Edinburgh) and Mrs Bateman, Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs Peter McCarthy (Ronald Selby Wright Christian Leadership Trust), Mr Robin Wilson (Secretary and chamberlain, The Merchant Company of Edinburgh) and Mrs Wilson, Dr Tom Johnston (president, The Royal Society of Edinburgh), Mr James Galbraith (chairman, The New Club), Mrs Cecilia Croal (Russell Trust), Mr Charles Pricket (Stewart Ivory), Mr George Sim (Edinburgh Battalion, The Boys' Brigade), Major Euan Gordon (Victoria League for Overseas Students in Scotland), Mr Charles Burnett (*Ross Herald*).

Major-General and Mrs Michael Scott, Mrs D F O Russell, Miss Judy Russell, Brigadier and Mrs John Wardle, Lieutenant-Colonel J L Wilson Smith, Lieutenant-Colonel J N Walter, Colonel Hugh Rose, Major and Mrs A S MacDonald, Major M R Knox, Major and Mrs John Gettley, Mrs James Harkness, Mrs Malcolm Thyne, the Rev Maxwell Craig, the Rev Colin and Mrs Forrester-Paton, the Rev Frederick Levison and the Rev Mary Levison, the Rev Alwyn MacFarlane, the Rev Dr Stewart Todd.

Major and Mrs James Kelly, Captain Tim Usher, Mrs William Reid, Mr and Mrs George Russell, Mr G R Russell, Mrs Charles Robertson, Mrs Roderick Smith, the Rev G A Wright, the Rev H L Kirk, Mrs Gladys Shaw, the Rev Jack Kellet, Mr Peter Sutton, the Rev Hugh Mackay, the Rev David and Mrs Macgregor, Mr David Rhodes, Mr George Preston, Mr and Mrs Andrew Murray, Mr Mark Peel, Mr and Mrs Neil Henderson, Mr Gordon Leslie, representatives from the Kirk Session, members of Canongate Kirk, members of the Old Canongate Boys' Club and Choir and many other colleagues and friends.

Sir Peter Lazarus
A service of thanksgiving for the life of Sir Peter Lazarus was held yesterday at the Liberal Jewish Synagogue, St John's Wood, London. Rabbi David Goldberg and Rabbi Helen Freeman officiated.

Mr Edmund de Rothschild, President of the Jewish Lads and Girls Brigade, read the lesson. Mr Trevor Moross read from Hilaire Belloc's *The South Country*, Mrs Catherine Mulgan from John Ruskin's *The Stones of Venice* and Mrs Rita Adler, Chairman of the Council of the Liberal Jewish Synagogue, read Byron's *So, we'll go no more a-roving*. Rabbi John Rayner, Rabbi Emeritus of the Liberal Jewish Synagogue, paid tribute.

Trumpeters of the Jewish Lads and Girls Brigade sounded *Last Post* and *Reveille*.

School news

King William's College
The Governors of King William's College, Isle of Man, are pleased to announce the appointment of Kerr Fulton-Peebles, MA, as Principal of King William's College from September 1996. Mr Fulton-Peebles is currently Housemaster of Kimmerghame House, Fettes College, Edinburgh.

Receptions

CASTME
Dr Federico Mayor Zaragoza, Director-General of UNESCO, was the guest of honour at a reception given by the Commonwealth Association of Science, Technology and Mathematics Educators (CASTME) yesterday at Marlborough House to mark its 21st anniversary.

Dr Nick Hare, Commonwealth Deputy Secretary-General (Development and Co-operation) welcomed the guests.

West Africa Committee
Mr A.J. Shelley, Chairman of the West Africa Committee, was the host at a reception held last night at the Army and Navy Club for members, government officials and representatives of the High Commissions and Embassies of West Africa.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Gian Bernini, sculptor, Naples, 1598; Sir Redvers Buller, VC, general, Crediton, Devon, 1839; Sir Joseph Cook, Prime Minister of Australia 1913-14, Silverdale, Staffordshire, 1860; Pietro Mascagni, composer, Leghorn, 1863; Rudolf Friml, composer, Prague, 1879.

DEATHS: Marcus Tullius Cicero, Roman orator and statesman, executed, Formia, Italy, 43 BC; Meindert Hobbema, landscape painter, Amsterdam, 1709; Michel Ney, commander of Napoleon's Old Guard, shot for high treason, Paris, 1815; William Bligh, admiral, Captain of *HMS Bounty*, London, 1817; John Flaxman, sculptor, London, 1826; Edward Irving, founder of the Holy Catholic Apostolic Church, Glasgow, 1834; Vicomte Ferdinand de Lesseps, promoter of the Suez Canal, La Chenaie, Belgium, 1894; Kirsten Flagstad, soprano, Oslo, 1962; Thornton Wilder, novelist and dramatist, New Haven, Connecticut, 1975; Robert Graves, poet and novelist, Deya, Majorca, 1985; Roy Orbison, singer, Nashville, Tennessee, 1988. The Theatre Royal, Covent Garden (now the Royal Opera House) opened, 1732.

William Pitt the Younger, aged 24, became the youngest British Prime Minister, 1783.

Pearl Harbor was bombed by Japanese aircraft; the following day Britain, Australia and America declared war on Japan, 1941.

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I know that the Lord is great, that our God is above all gods. Whatever the Lord wills that he does.
Psalm 135 : 5,6 (REB)

BIRTHS

BAKER WHITE - On December 1st 1995, to Susie (née Johnson) and Mark, a son, William 'George' John, a brother for Lucy.

BEECHAM - On 5th December 1995 at Wellington Hospital, to Sarah (née Rosswick) and Andrew, a gorgeous girl, Hannah.

BLAKE - On December 3rd 1995 at Queen Mary's, Roehampton, to Kate (née Minton) and Tom, a son, Harry, a brother for Alice, Sophie and Oliver.

BROOKS-WARD - On November 30th, to Catherine and Simon, a daughter, Pandora Lucy, a sister for Isabella.

CONNELLY - On November 24th at Farnborough Hospital, Kent, to Lesley (née Johnson) and James, a daughter, Isobel Lulu Alexandra, a beautiful sister for Sophie and Alice.

FAIRALL-WHITELEGGE - On November 26th 1995, to Gilly and Oliver, a very healthy little daughter, Beth.

FORTIER - On 1st December at Wellington Hospital, to Marisol and Michael, a son, Nicolas, a brother to Sophie and Guillaume.

HARRIS - On 22nd November 1995, to Emma and Philip, a daughter, Annabel Jane Victoria, a beautiful sister for Sophie.

HYMAN - On December 3rd, at University College Hospital, to Elsya (née Speechly-Dick) and Keith, a son, Charles Raphael Speechly, a first grandchild for Denise, Norman, Judy and David.

JUDGE - On 14th November, to Carolyn (née Marsh) and Charles, a beautiful daughter, Amy Victoria.

MARSHALL-CAMM - On November 30th 1995, to Judith and Steven, a son, Benjamin Richard John, a brother for Oliver.

BIRTHS

MOODY - On November 6th, to Annie and John, a daughter, Clementine Tara Rose, a sister for Ben, Flora, Tim and Patrick.

MURRAY BROWN - On 4th December 1995 at the Lindo Wing, St Mary's, to Valli (née Watson) and John, a son, a brother for Louis.

TYDEMAN - On December 5th at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Victoria (née Hodgson) and Mark, a son.

ADOPTIONS

WATERFIELD - On December 4th 1995, to Louise (née Wainwright) and Simon, a daughter, Lara Louise, born on July 31st 1993.

MARRIAGES

NOBLE:KALMANOVITCH - On November 25th 1995 of Dr. Iain J.F. Noble and Dr. Deborah V.A. Kalmanovitch.

DEATHS

ASHBROOK - On 5th December 1995, peacefully, Desmond Llowarch Edward, 10th Viscount Ashbrook K.C.V.O. M.B.E. D.L. Aged 90 years, dearly loved husband of Elizabeth, father of Michael, Anthony and Jane, and grandfather of Eleanor, Rowland, Harry, Alexandra, Antonia, Rupert and Cordelia. Funeral private. Memorial Service at St Mary and All Saints Church, Great Budworth, at 2.30 pm on Wednesday 17th January 1996. No flowers please. Trains will be met. For further details please telephone (01565) 777231.

DEATHS

AYER - On December 5th 1995, peacefully at home, Muriel Margaret (Poppy) née Staveacre aged 92 years, widow of Kenneth. Much loved aunt of Raymond Rowntree. Great-aunt of Peter and Ruth Harker and family. Cremation private. Service of Thanksgiving will be held at St John's Church, Ladbroke Grove, London W11 on Saturday December 16th 1995 at 2.30 pm. Donations if wished to Age Concern Westminster, 4 Frampton Street, London NW8 4LF.

BOYD - On December 4th 1995 at home with his family, Doctor Ian Martin Boyd, aged 57 years. Beloved husband of Judy and wonderful father of Katie, Robbie and Zoe. Funeral Service at the Church of St Saviour and St Peter, South Street, Eastbourne on Tuesday December 12th at 2pm. Private burial in Salisbury will take place on Wednesday. Flowers, or donations to The Camphill Village Trust may be sent to Haine and Son Ltd., 19 South Street, Eastbourne, BN21 4UJ.

BRITTON - Dorna, wife of the late W.J. Britton O.B.E., passed away suddenly 29th November 1995. Sadly missed by family and friends.

d'ANYERS WILLIS - Suddenly on Tuesday 5th December, Guy Russell d'Anyers Willis of Druimantsvore and late of Higham, Suffolk, peacefully at Fernbrae Nursing Home, Dundee. The deeply loved and loving husband of Sheena for 48 years, adored and respected Father of Nicola, Roderick and Piers, and loving Grandfather. A verray parfit gentil knight. Family funeral private. Thanksgiving Service to be announced later.

DEATHS

DINSDALE - Richard (Dick) aged 86 on December 2nd at Bexhill Hospital. Formerly Editor of the IPC Sun, deputy Editor of the Daily Mirror and Chairman of West of England Newspapers. Funeral at Guildford Crematorium on Tuesday 12th December at 2 pm. Enquiries and flowers to Pimms Funeral Services, Charters, Mary Road, Guildford. tel: (01483) 567594.

DYMOCK - Mary Brett. Suddenly but serenely at home on December 5th. London will never be the same. Adored by family and friends, near and far. Aunt, great-aunt, great-grand aunt - we love you. Service at West London Crematorium at Kensal Green on Tuesday 12th December 11.30 am. Enquiries to J.H. Kenyon. Tel: (0171) 229-3810.

FELLS - On December 3rd 1995 suddenly at home, Roy Thomas aged 79. Husband of the late Margaret (née Dodds), dear father of Anne and much loved grandpa of Alexander and Joanna. Funeral Service at Keston Parish Church on Wednesday December 13th at 2.30 pm. All enquiries to J & R Killick Ltd., 112 High Street, West Wickham, Kent BR4 0ND. tel: (0181) 777-4602.

FREEMAN - Anne Frances died suddenly in hospital on 2nd December 1995 after a very short illness. Dearly loved wife of Neville. Her many friends and relations both in England and the USA will miss her greatly. Funeral Service at Holy Trinity, Guildford, at 12 noon on 11th December followed by private cremation at 2 pm. Family flowers only, donations if desired to Guildford Abbeyfield Society, The Old Vicarage, Chinthurst Lane, Shalford, GU4 8JS.

FULLWOOD - Neville Fullwood CBE, aged 81, at St John's Hospital, Livingston, loving and beloved husband of Daphne, darling father of Felicity and much loved grandfather of Daniel and Eleonora. Service at Mortonhall Crematorium, Pentland Chapel, Edinburgh on Monday December 11th at 11.45 am. Family flowers only but donations if desired to Marie Curie Cancer Care.

GABEY - Christopher peacefully at home in the midst of his family, on December 5th, aged 58. Most dearly loved husband of Sandra and father of Ela, Richard and Edward. Funeral Service at St Anne's, Dropmore (between Beaconsfield and Burnham) at 2.30 pm on Tuesday 12th December, followed by cremation at Amersham Crematorium. Family flowers only but donations if wished to Leukaemia and Lymphoma Unit, University College Hospital - full details from G. Smith, Funeral Director, on (01628) 523666.

GIBBINS - Dudley Guy. Quietly at home after a sudden short illness bravely endured. Dearly loved husband of Joy, adored father of Jan and Gill, grandfather of Jonathan and Matthew, great-grandfather of Sam. Funeral at 2.30 pm on Wednesday 13th December at Randalls Park Crematorium, Leatherhead. Donations if desired to Princess Alice Hospice, Esher or Imperial Cancer Research Fund. Enquiries to W.A. Truelove, Epsom, tel: (01372) 725337.

GLASS - Eric, literary and theatrical agent died at home on 4th December 1995 after a lengthy illness borne with his unfailing courage and humour. Dearly loved and will be greatly missed by his wife Janet, son Barry Justin and daughter Caroline and by family, friends and colleagues. Funeral Service on Friday 8th December at 12 noon at Golders Green Cemetery, Hoop Lane, London NW11. Enquiries to M.M. Broad & Son (0181) 445-2797.

GODFREY-FAUSSETT - Peacefully on 4th December 1995, Nancy, aged 88 years, widow of Peter, loving and greatly loved mother of Hazel (Swinglehurst) and Tom, wise friend to her six grandchildren and proud great-grandmother to seven. Funeral at St Luke's, Chiddingstone Causeway on Saturday 16th December at 12 noon. Family flowers only. Donations if wished may be sent to the Royal National Institute for the Blind, c/o H.J. Johnston & Son, Chiddingstone Causeway, Kent TN11 8LE, telephone: (01892) 870572.

MILNER - Lieut - Commander Geoffrey Ernest Milner M.B.E., R.N.R. Ret'd. Son of Ernest Edward Milner and beloved husband of Dorothy, late of Elders and Fyffes, peacefully passed away on 3rd December aged 89 at home after a long illness. Will be sadly missed by his family. Service to be held at St Margaret-at-Cliffe Church, nr. Dover on Thursday 14th December 2.30 pm.

ODD - Humphrey Richard on Monday 4th December aged 49 years, suddenly at home in Northumberland. Much loved husband of Amanda and father of Alexander and Sara. Private funeral.

PATON - Frank, on December 4th, suddenly but peacefully at home. Husband of Dawn and father of Anna, Julian, Catherine, James and Lucy. Service of Thanksgiving to be held at St Michael's Church, Enmore, on Saturday December 9th at 11.30 am. No flowers please. Any donations to The British Heart Foundation and St Michael's Church, Enmore, may be left at the Church or sent to Granfield & Son, Funeral Directors, Nether Stowey.

MATTHEWS - Rt. Hon. The Lord Matthews of Southgate. Passed peacefully away at his home in Jersey on his birthday Tuesday 5th December 1995, aged 76 years after a long and courageous battle against cancer, dearly loved husband of the late Lady Matthews, loving father of Ian, father-in-law of Helen and devoted pappa of Emma, Lucy and Sarah. Will be sadly missed forever. Further details can be obtained from H.W. Maillard & Son Ltd., Funeral Directors, telephone: (01534) 37291.

ROBINSON - Bernard peacefully at home in Crosby on 3rd December aged 84 years. Dearly loved husband of the late Anne Robinson (née Wilson), companion and friend of Marie Mercer, father of Peter and Anna, grandfather of Emma, father-in-law of John Penrose. (A former teacher at St James School, Bootle, his wit, humour and charm will be sadly missed). Requiem Mass at SS Peter and Paul's Church, Liverpool Road, Crosby, Liverpool, on Tuesday December 12th at 12 noon followed by interment in the Churchyard. Flowers and further enquiries to Coyne Bros., Peel House, 87 Seaforth Road, Seaforth, Liverpool L21 3TY. tel: (0151) 928-3763.

SCOTT-COWELL - Geoffrey Lawrence - Peacefully at home in Sprotbrough, Doncaster on 6th December 1995. Beloved husband of Betty, father of Janet, Sylvia and Kevin, father-in-law of Helen and grandfather of Thomas. "... that best portion of a good man's life. His little, nameless, unremembered acts of kindness and of love." Family flowers only please but if desired donations may be made in aid of St Johns Hospice, Weston Road, Doncaster.

SHEARING - Anne Margaret (Pegs) on 3rd December 1995, aged 85, widow of Jim. Sadly missed by family and friends. Funeral Service to be held at St Mark's Church, Southend-on-Sea at 12 noon on Wednesday 13th December. No flowers please. Donations, if desired, to St Mark's Church c/o Tanner's Funeral Directors, 26 East Street, Prittlewell, Essex SS2 6LH.

ST. JOHNSTON - Rhona aged 88, widow of Eric St. Johnston, peacefully in Cirencester on December 5th 1995. Dearly loved mother of Kerry and grandmother of Claire, James and Rory. Funeral at St James Church, Chipping Campden on Monday December 11th at 12 noon. Family flowers only c/o Packer & Slade, Cirencester.

STANNARD - Margaret, late of Grays, Essex, suddenly on December 4th 1995 aged 60 years. Funeral Service at South Essex Crematorium, Upminster, on Wednesday 13th December at 12.15 pm. All enquiries to West and Coe Funeral Directors, 38 Lodge Lane, Grays, Essex. tel: (01375) 375615.

SUTTON - Eric Charles, on December 6th 1995, aged 78. Peacefully in hospital after a brave fight against cancer. Dear husband of Hope and the late Louise, father of Charles and Nicholas, much loved grandfather and step-grandfather. Funeral family only. Thanksgiving Service at St Peter's Church, Ightham, nr. Sevenoaks, on Tuesday 9th January at 2 pm. No flowers please, but donations if desired to Cancer Research or Kidney Research.

TOLLINTON - Elizabeth peacefully at home on 4th December. Most dearly loved daughter, sister and friend. Funeral on Wednesday 13th December at Great Hampden Church, nr Great Missenden, Bucks. at 12.30 pm. Flowers from family only, please.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

WINGATE GRAY - A Service in memory of Brigadier W.M. Wingate Gray will be held at St Columba's Church, Pont Street, SW1, on Wednesday 10th January 1996 at 12 noon.

IN MEMORIAM - PRIVATE

ASTON - Dr. Simon Robert, geochemist with the UN, died aged 39 in Monaco December 1986. With gratitude and pride we remember Simon who gave so much love and happiness during his life and left such treasured memories with all his family.

NEALE - Professor Sir John and Lady Elfreda, remembered with love always and especially today, the anniversary of his birth and her death. Stella and Harry.

TOMPKINS - Richard Tompkins, C.B.E. Daddy, you are forever in my thoughts and I miss you every day, but I know you are always sitting on my shoulder. Vicky.

TOMPKINS - Richard Tompkins, C.B.E. In loving memory of my darling husband who passed away three years ago. So many cherished memories, forever in my heart. Liz.

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OBITUARIES

LORD MATTHEWS

Lord Matthews, former deputy chairman and group chief executive of Trafalgar House, died at his Jersey home on his birthday aged 76. He was born on December 5, 1919.

IN HARNESS with Nigel Broackes from the 1960s onwards, Victor Matthews was part of one of the most successful British business partnerships of recent years. Between them the two men created, in less than two decades, a billion-pound property conglomerate which came to control some of the most hallowed landmarks in British corporate life, including Cunard with its flagship, the liner *QE2*, the Ritz Hotel and Express Newspapers. As chairman of the last from 1977 to 1985, Matthews launched the *Daily Star*, the first new daily tabloid newspaper in Britain for 75 years when it came out in November 1978.

Yet, ironically, it was perhaps as newspaper tycoon that Matthews was at his least easy. He always said that he had become a press baron almost by accident and, although he professed esteem for the illustrious Beaverbrook name, he was never really at home in the Fleet Street jungle. Having taken over Beaverbrook Newspapers from the founder's son Sir Max Aitken in 1977 he was to experience a takeover himself only eight years later, when United Newspapers made a successful bid for the Express holding company of Fleet Holdings in 1985.

Matthews had been a late developer in business terms. He had begun his working life first as an office boy and restarted it, after war service, in the construction business. He was hardly known to the general public until he was in his forties. Thereafter, through commercial flair and bold initiatives he and his partner (who was knighted in 1984) rapidly became a significant and controversial force in public life. This sprang partly from the nature of the areas to which his ambition directed him, and partly from his forceful cast of character and approach. His motivations and his business acumen were always the subject for fascinating — and fascinated — speculation.

Victor Collin Matthews was born in North London and never lost his gravelly Cockney voice — the origin of *Private Eye*'s snobbish nickname for him as Lord Whelks — or his air of genuinely modest surprise at his worldly success. He was educated at an elementary school in Highbury and started work as an office boy with a tobacco company.

In 1939 he was mobilised with the RNVR and he spent the last few of his war years with Combined Operations. After the war he found employment as a trainee surveyor with a building firm, Trollope and Colls, where he pursued an uneventful career to the position of contracts manager.

A sudden turn of fortune came when his disgruntlement with the company (of which he was later to be chairman) prompted him to move to a small building products firm, Clark and Fenn. There he developed his management skills under a sympathetic and perceptive chairman, who supported him in taking over a business of his own, when Clark and Fenn went public. The business which Matthews acquired, the contracting concern, Bridge Walker, increased its turnover fourfold to about £2 million by 1964.

Among the contracts it won was work on flat conversions for the Trafalgar House property company, chaired by Nigel Broackes. Their encounter distilled the beginnings of the remarkable personal chemistry between the two, and when a takeover bid was made for Bridge Walker, they countered it by agreeing on the purchase of a 49 per cent stake by Trafalgar House.

The different backgrounds of the two men — Broackes had been to school at Stowe and in his National Service had been commisioned into the 3rd Hussars — produced sharply contrasting but creatively complementary attitudes and business skills. At the time they joined forces, Broackes had been looking for trading income to offset the effects of the newly introduced corporation tax. In the new environment, when Bridge Walker was acquired by Trafalgar House, Matthews's skills as a building contractor found their full scope.

From the mid-1960s, Matthews's business life was linked to an unusual degree with that of his partner and they constituted a spirited, unpredictable team, often privately at odds, but publicly working and performing together in a way that made it hard to tell which decision was whose. Adopting an often informal, highly flexible, management and financial approach, in the 1970s they developed a very substantial enterprise whose activities were rarely out of the business news headlines. By the early 1980s, with stakes in property, shipping, aviation and hotels, Trafalgar House was declaring pre-tax profits of about £50 million a year and still expanding vigorously. Capital employed by the large conglomerate was about £380 million. Matthews became deputy chairman (Broackes was chairman) in 1973 and group chief executive in 1977.

Matthews was created a life peer in 1980 by the Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher, to whose general policies he was publicly committed. By that time he had become an immediately recognisable public figure and Trafalgar House was noted for its vigorous pursuit of profits through acquisitions and corporate rationalisation.

The acquisitions which attracted most general interest outside the financial and property worlds were those of the shipping company Cunard in 1971, the Ritz in 1976 and of Beaverbrook Newspapers (restyled Express Newspapers) in 1977. The £27 million takeover of Cunard, with possession of its glamorous flagship *QE2*, was seen by Matthews as a logical extension of the group's activities in the field of leisure allied to accommodation. The deal attracted criticism, as the tax advantages accruing to Trafalgar House through the purchase were highlighted, and fears were expressed for the traditional values of the shipping company. Indeed, the shake-up of boardroom and management at Cunard shocked some observers, but the losses of the company were transformed subsequently into growing profits.

The entry of Trafalgar House into Fleet Street in 1977 — very much at Matthews's own instigation — was even more controversial and seemed less secure in view of the deep-rooted problems of the national newspaper business, magnified in the Beaverbrook Newspapers case by an ageing readership and presses and a declining circulation. Matthews became chairman of Express Newspapers, as the group was renamed.

Matthews took a commercial and editorial interest in the papers which were acquired, which included the *Daily Express* and *Sunday Express* and their Scottish counterparts. He was said to have wanted to model himself on their illustrious founder, announcing that editors would have complete freedom "as long as they agree with the policy I have laid down". In the early days, his Rolls-Royce (TRA 1) used to be seen parked outside the *Daily Express* building in Fleet Street, at first once or twice a week, then daily.

In the year following Trafalgar House's takeover, primarily on his initiative, the tabloid *Daily Star* was launched to compete down market from the *Express*. Efforts to rationalise the business included the merging of London's *Evening News* into the initially Trafalgar House/Associated Newspapers joint-owned *Evening Standard*.

Matthews brought fresh air and some new ideas (including bingo) to Fleet Street; his sometimes brash approach was resented in many quarters but his business reputation was based on his innate instincts as a self-confessed trader and manager and on his aggressive business approach to acquisitions and management restructuring. But in financial terms, despite the success of its Morgan Grampian magazine division, the publishing activities of the Fleet Holdings group produced a relatively feeble return for all the enterprise and effort put into it.

Relations between Matthews and Broackes had already become somewhat strained after the publication in 1979 of Broackes's book *A Growing Concern*, which had seemed to play down Matthews's role at Trafalgar House. Fleet Holdings, of which Matthews became chairman in 1982, was demerged from Trafalgar House in the following year and with improved pretax profits for 1983-84 the future looked, momentarily at least, rosy. But the clouds were gathering. A demerged Fleet was always vulnerable to hostile bids and in 1985 United Newspapers opened a determined assault. After a bitter battle and a last-ditch defence by Matthews, United's bid for Fleet and its newspapers was eventually accepted in October 1985. It was the end of Matthews's association with the Express group and in the following month he also resigned his deputy chairmanship of Trafalgar House and retired to Jersey, having sold his shares in Fleet Holdings for £8 million.

Matthews kept a string of horses, enjoyed farming and collected silver and antiques. He relished being a millionaire, but drove himself and others hard. Nevertheless, in business he was a resolute but usually accessible employer. In his private life he shunned ostentation and publicity.

His wife Joyce, whom he married in 1942, died in October. He is survived by a son.

LADY HILDA SWAN

Lady Hilda Swan, founder of the Boxford House English Language School, was killed in a car accident on December 4 aged 58. She was born on July 23, 1937.

BORN Lady Hilda Northcote, the younger daughter of the 3rd Earl of Iddesleigh possessed distinguished literary antecedents. She was the great-niece of Hilaire Belloc and the grandchild of Marie Belloc Lowndes, whose husband, Frederick Lowndes, was one of the early obituaries editors of *The Times*. She inherited, quite understandably, a considerable interest in literature, combining this with phenomenal energy — known within her family as "the Belloc drive".

She still, however, saw herself primarily as a family person and found her greatest delight in presiding over family gatherings — she had 18 grandchildren at the time of her death. Such occasions could be either simple picnics, summer gatherings round the swimming pool or, when adults alone were the guests, grand dinner parties at her Georgian Gothic home in the heart of Constable country.

Hilda Susan Mary Northcote was brought up on her father's estate at Pynes, near Exeter, and — coming from a Roman Catholic family — was educated at St Mary's, Ascot. On leaving school, she trained as a nursery nurse at the Violet Melchiot Hospital in Chelsea.

After her marriage in 1957 to Dr (subsequently Sir) Conrad Swan she went to live in Canada, where her husband — later to become Garter Principal, King of Arms — then held an assistant professorship of history at Assumption University in Windsor, Ontario. They both returned to England four years later and found what was to remain their home for more than thirty years at Boxford in Suffolk.

It was there in 1962 that Lady Hilda Swan first established the Boxford House English Language School for foreign students. A residential operation, she conducted it with great flair and distinction — as the years went by often welcoming the offspring of the original young people who had come to learn English under her. She directed her last course there only a few months ago. At the end of the summer she had handed over supervision of the school to her third daughter.

She played a very active part in local affairs, serving as the East Suffolk chairman of the Riding for the Disabled Association from 1986 to 1991. In addition, she was Suffolk county president of St John Ambulance from 1989 onwards, as well as being a serving sister in the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem. In 1979 she was appointed a Dame of Honour and Devotion of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta.

Her interests, however, went further afield. She concerned herself particularly with an orphanage in Lithuania — though once again there was a family connection in that it happened to be situated in the parish in which her husband's ancestors had once held the manor.

Lady Hilda Swan is survived by her husband, a son and four daughters.

HOWARD HIGMAN

Howard Higman, sociologist, died in Boulder, Colorado, on November 22 aged 80. He was born there on April 25, 1915.

FOR almost half a century, beginning in 1948, distinguished men and women from all over America and many other parts of the world flocked like returning swallows to the campus of the University of Colorado every spring. Travelling at their own expense, they came to participate in the annual World Affairs Conference. That was the official excuse. In fact, they came to enjoy being goaded and provoked by Howard Higman, one of the most lively and original academic minds of his generation.

Higman was a man who loved to create intellectual disturbance. To receive one of the treasured 125 invitations sent out each year to participate in the Boulder conference was a high compliment. It meant that Higman regarded the recipient as possessing a mind that could strike sparks from those around him and, for all the expense and inconvenience involved in travelling to an obscure campus in the Far West of the United States, the invitation was rarely refused.

These were conferences like no other. Higman would choose 200 subjects for overlapping panel discussions which might range from the serious ("Third World Development — Women as a Force of Change") to an unscheduled debate on "The Resurgent Condom". The participants were never informed of the subjects before their arrival, and for the next week they would be required to serve on one panel after another, with Higman insisting that they took at least one topic about which they knew absolutely nothing. It was apparent chaos, but out of the confusion came stimulating talk which attracted audiences of 30,000 townspeople and Colorado students each year. In that sense, Higman was a genuine academic impresario.

He was not above using the conference to make a political point, attracting major media attention in 1953 when he stacked the panels with speakers to launch a massive attack on the anti-communist witch-hunt being conducted by Senator Joseph R. McCarthy. He also incurred the ire of J. Edgar Hoover whom he attacked as heading "a political police". Hoover's response, characteristically, was to demand: "Can't we set a fire under the University of Colorado?"

It was in 1948 that Higman staged his first conference (at a cost of $5,000, originally intended to be paid to a star speaker who never arrived, though the money came in useful for entertainment). It had been planned as a one-off tribute to the newly-formed United Nations. But the University of Colorado, then a sleepy institution more famed for its parties than its academic impact, ordered him to make it an annual event and it became the focus of his life.

He had been born in a hospital on the Boulder campus and educated there. In fact, apart from wartime service in Washington, on various government committees, he lived in the same house for his entire life. It was the one un-American facet of his character. An omnivorous student who wanted to know everything about everything, he first studied art and then switched to sociology in graduate school, purely because "everything there is to know" was not on the syllabus.

Aside from his conference activities, Higman, who held a chair at Colorado, proved to be an innovative sociologist, deeply concerned with improving the lot of the poor and minorities. He did pioneering work on the Native American reservation in South Dakota at Wounded Knee, and was noted for accepting his subjects for what they were, rather than what they should be. "He was not," in the vivid phrase of John Midgley, former Washington editor of *The Economist* and a long-time friend, "at all dainty in his expectations."

Midgley was once the victim of one of Higman's other characteristics: absent-mindedness. An accomplished cook, Higman was staying with Midgley in Washington when he prepared an elaborate meal for 30 guests. Unfortunately, however, he forgot to send out any invitations, leaving his host to eat Beef Wellington for the next three weeks.

But forgetfulness was not his only eccentricity. Too impatient to wait for the invention of the portable telephone, he had 17 phones installed in his home so that one would always be within easy reach.

The World Affairs Conference came to an end in 1994 when the University of Colorado announced that it had got out of touch with its students' interests. This was a cruel blow to Higman, who had been its presiding genius and gadfly for 47 years.

He is survived by his wife Marion and their three daughters.

THE REV ROBERT COULSON

The Rev Robert Coulson, Anglican priest, died on December 2 aged 96. He was born on October 10, 1899.

ROBERT COULSON was the founder of the Fellowship of Contemplative Prayer. He was a pioneer in emphasising to both clergy and laity the importance of contemplation.

Robert Gustavus Coulson was born in St Petersburg, Russia, where his parents had property, as well as an estate in Estonia. All this was lost in the Russian Revolution of 1917, when the family was forced to leave and came to England.

Coulson had already been educated in this country, first at St Cyprian's preparatory school and then at Tonbridge. On leaving school he went to Sandhurst and in 1918 was commissioned into the King's Royal Rifle Corps. He volunteered for service in North Russia and was sent to Murmansk, where he took part in a merciless winter campaign in which he was slightly wounded. Later he served in India and Germany, partly in Army Intelligence, as a fluent Russian and German speaker.

When he left the Army in 1930 he helped to organise clubs for the unemployed in London. He was also writing a book, *The Uneasy Triangle*, which described his experiences in Germany after 1918. This was used as a basis for planning the British occupation in Germany after the Second World War. A little later he published *Human Needs in Modern Society*.

After Munich in 1938 Coulson was one of a group sent by the Foreign Office to Czechoslovakia to "supervise and observe" the takeover by Hitler of the Sudetenland. At the outbreak of the Second World War he was given a staff job at the War Office in the Army Welfare Directorate. Although not at this time a conventional Christian, he was invited by Archbishop William Temple to serve on the Archbishop's Commission on Evangelism, and asked by the chairman, Bishop Christopher Chavasse of Rochester, to help with its report *Towards the Conversion of England*.

The bishop suggested that he should become ordained, and consequently he went to train at Wycliffe Hall, Oxford. On leaving there he was given two parishes in Kent. He was much involved in inter-faith work and represented the Christian viewpoint at the meetings of the World Congress of Faiths (founded by Sir Francis Younghusband).

Coulson became increasingly interested in the contemplative approach to religion and in 1946 founded the Fellowship of Contemplative Prayer, which now has branches thoughout Britain and in the United States, Australia and the Republic of Ireland. He retired from parochial work in 1961 and wrote three books, *Into God*, *The Threefold Reality* and *I Am*, all concerned with the practice of contemplation in ordinary working lives.

His wife Pamela died earlier this year and he is survived by two daughters.

PERSONAL COLUMN

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THE ROYAL AIR FORCE BENEVOLENT FUND

ON THIS DAY

December 7, 1942

The main targets for the raiding aircraft were the battleships in the harbour: all eight were put out of action.

PEARL HARBOR LOSSES

A report issued by the Navy Department in Washington for the anniversary of the Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor reveals a number of details which are now made public for the first time. It was known that the battleships Arizona and Oklahoma had been sunk——so much was announced at the time. It is now revealed that three other battleships, the California, Nevada, and West Virginia, were completely disabled, and the remaining three of the eight that were in harbour, the Pennsylvania, Maryland and Tennessee, were damaged to an extent that put them out of action temporarily. Three of the seven cruisers present, the Helena, Honolulu, and Raleigh, were also temporarily put out of action. These six last-named ships all returned to service in the fleet months ago; and of the remainder, a number——unspecified, of course——are also already in service. Of the latter, the balance are still under repair, and opportunity is being taken of their being in hand to instal "numerous modernisation features and improvements."

Of the 28 destroyers in harbour only three were sunk, and one of these, the Shaw, is already known to be in service again with a new bow. The machinery of the other two——55 per cent of their value——was salved for further use. Only one of the damaged ships will be permanently lost, the 26-year-old battleship Arizona: but though preparation for righting and salving the capsized battleship Oklahoma are in hand, it is not yet decided whether the salvage will be undertaken now. None of the five American submarines present was lost. Analysis of reports of the attack show that the Japanese air force that made it consisted of 21 torpedo aircraft, 48 dive-bombers, and 36 level bombers, together with an unnamed, but apparently small, number of fighters. Of these 105 attacking aircraft 28 were shot down by the Navy and some 20 or more by Army fighters, though very few of the latter were able to get into the air owing to damage to their runways inflicted by the first waves of the assault.

There were 202 naval aircraft in flying condition in the island of Oahu when the attack was made, and 18 more, returning from a carrier which was at sea, arrived during it. Of those on shore, 150 were disabled by the attack and 14 were blocked from the runways; the remaining 52 took to the air. The Army's total, of which even fewer got into action, was 273. Japanese losses amounted to about 50 aircraft, or nearly half of those sent in to the attack.

BARGAINS OF THE WEEK

HOLIDAYS

Under canvas

CHRISTMAS night in a tent on Snowdon will be the highlight of a five-night break with High Trek Snowdonia, starting on December 22, and including a daily walk with a qualified guide. Other nights are spent in a farmhouse. Cost: £259, including food and equipment. Details: 01286 871232.

Head east

DIVING and sports holidays in Egyptian resorts are available at significant reductions from Goldenjoy Holidays. Seven nights at La Perla Hotel, Hurghada, departing Gatwick on December 15, January 5 and 12, cost £199, while a week at the Hilton Hotel, Sharm el Sheikh, with the same departure dates, costs £279. Details: 0171-794 9767.

Tee shots

LONGSHOT golf holidays on the Costa del Sol are available between December 11 and 31 at £474 per person for three nights at a four-star hotel. Details: 01730 266561.

Island offer

CLUB Antigua, the 470-room all-inclusive resort, reopens on December 15 after repairs and a general overhaul after Hurricane Luis. Hayes & Jarvis is marking the event with a £669 special deal for seven nights. Details: 0181-748 5050.

Going Solo

SINGLES can celebrate Christmas in Vienna with Solo's Holidays. A four-night stay departing Heathrow on December 23 costs £635. Details: 0181-951 2800.

Winter warmer

FESTIVE holidays in Malta, combining Christmas and new year, are on offer from Belleair Holidays, starting at £315 per person for 11 nights' self-catering. Details: 0181-785 3266.

HOTELS

Doctor on call

MORE than 100 hotels in London have signed up to a new service providing 24-hour emergency medical and dental cover for guests. SOS Doctors charges £30 for a callout during the day and £40 at night and weekends. Details: 0171-603 3332.

Leading edge

A NEW directory to more than 300 of the world's most exclusive hotels is available from Leading Hotels Of The World, a reservations consortium. Details: 0800-181 123.

Festive crackers

TRADITIONAL Christmas breaks are offered at many of the 40 historic country house hotels forming part of the Grand Heritage Hotels consortium. The Swan Hotel in Bibury in the Cotswolds, for example, has a three-night package starting either December 23 or 24 at a cost of £420 per person, including Christmas lunch and dinner. Grand Heritage Hotels: 0171-376 1777.

More Choice

CHOICE HOTELS has launched its first weekend break brochure for the UK and Irish markets covering its 41 properties, which trade under several brand names including Quality Friendly Hotels, Comfort Friendly Inns, Sleep Inns and Clarion Hotels. Prices start at £17.95 per night per person. Details: 0800-444 444.

French leave

THE newest Paris Town House Hotel is the Libertel Argentine, located close to the Arc de Triomphe and one of 26 mid-market hotels operated by CIP Hotels in Paris. The 40-bedroom hotel has room rates starting at FF850 for a single room, including service and tax. CIP Hotels: 0800-895 950.

Togetherness

MOAT HOUSE hotels located close to motorways have installed "Trafficmaster" systems to provide departing guests with up-to-the-minute information on local traffic conditions. The system projects information direct from motorway sensors to a computer screen in the hotel reception area. Details: 01708-730522.

FLIGHTS

Going Dutch

KLM has a Christmas bonus for its Flying Dutchman frequent-flyer members. It is awarding double points on business-class flights between now and February 29. Details: 0181-750 9000.

Czech it out

CZECH Airlines is starting Stansted-Prague flights on March 31. The carrier has promised to offer promotional fares to launch the new four-times-a-week service, which will complement its existing Heathrow flights. Details: 0171-255 1898.

Jersey cream

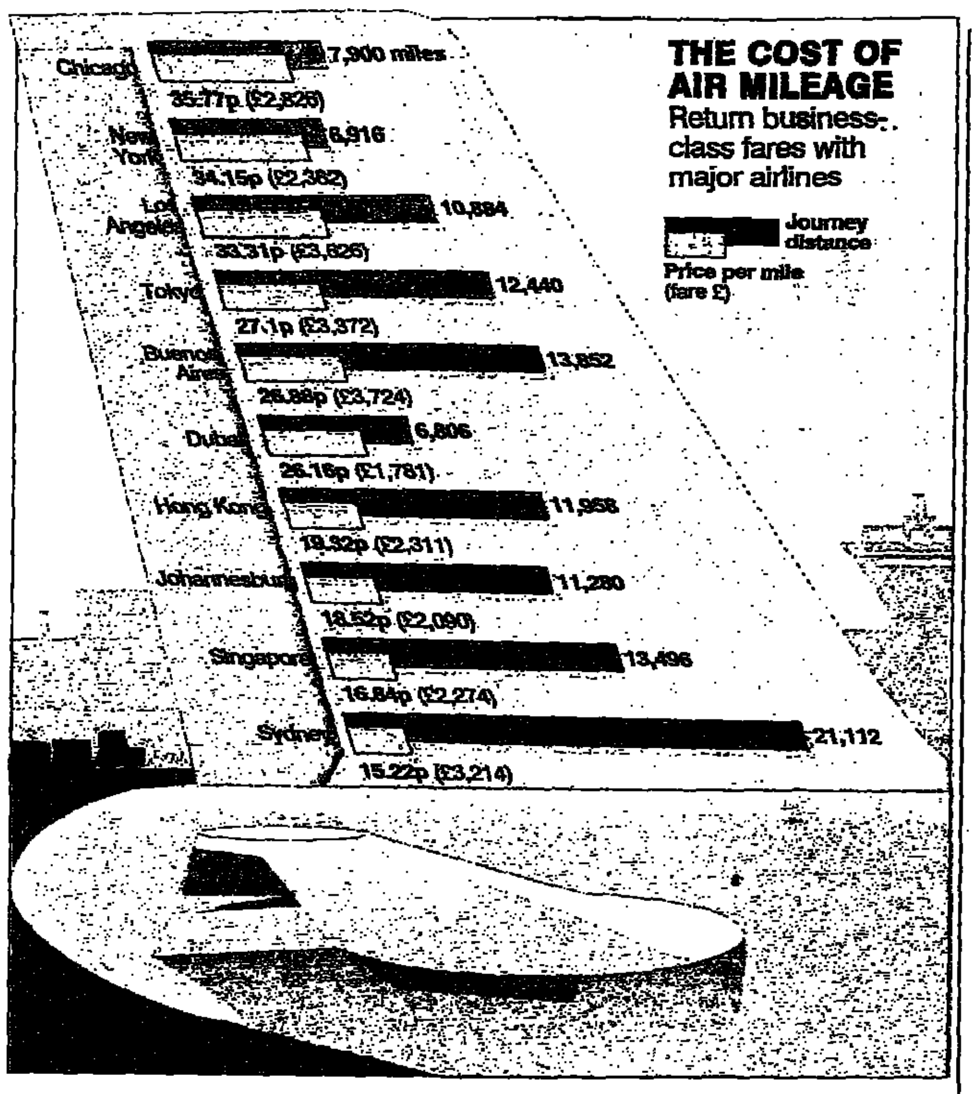
TRAVELLERS to Jersey and Belfast from London and from Birmingham to Belfast can claim a free economy ticket for every return business-class ticket purchased. Details: 01392 460777.

Star offer

EUROSTAR's winter sale fares have been extended until the end of March, with prices of £69 return to Brussels, and £76 to Paris. Details: 0345 881881.

First chance

GERMAN airline Interot is offering a £98 introductory return fare for business travellers on its new London City to Cologne service. Details: 01293 514544.



US tops fares league

By Robin Atherton

AN AIRLINE seat can cost two or three times as much per mile on some long-haul flights as on others, even though the carrier is the same and service is identical.

Passengers flying to the Far East or Australia travel at bargain prices, while those crossing the Atlantic pay Europe's highest business-class fares.

Recent price rises mean that an executive flying from London to Chicago is charged a return fare of £2,826 by British Airways — almost as much as the £3,214 it charges for Sydney. Yet it is three times as far to Sydney as to Chicago.

Another price discrepancy is revealed in the cost of a business-class ticket to New York compared with one to Singapore. British Airways charges £2,362 for New York and £2,274 for Singapore — even though the latter is twice the mileage from London.

Such discrepancies are largely the result of market forces. Britain has some of Europe's highest transatlantic fares because British Airways cashes in on the strong trade and cultural links between the United Kingdom and America. "This is a fiercely competitive industry and if we see an opportunity for increased prices we'll take it," says Robert Ayling, the company's managing director.

BA's policy is condoned by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), which oversees air fares from the UK. "We insist that flexible economy-class fares are cost-related," says a CAA spokesman. "But it is up to each airline to charge what it wishes for business class."

Strong links between Britain, the Far East and Australia have, conversely, meant more competition and better value fares. Several of the world's best airlines, such as SIA, Cathay Pacific and Qantas lock antlers on prime routes.

At the same time, so-called "indirect" carriers (airlines offering transit flights via Amsterdam, Copenhagen, Bangkok and so on) compete by offering lower fares.

Surprisingly, the London-Johannesburg route, which is closely controlled by BA and South African Airways and is often criticised for high fares, comes out of the comparison favourably.

Hotels penalise early check-outs

By David Churchill

BUSINESS travellers flying to the United States next month face an unexpected surcharge of up to £34 if they check out of their room ahead of schedule.

Two of the top American hotel chains, Hyatt and Westin, this week confirmed that they will impose the surcharge at most of their properties from the beginning of January. Other American hoteliers may follow suit, although there are no plans to extend the penalty payments to Europe.

The surcharge is aimed primarily at penalising business travellers who book a room for several nights and then check out a day or two early because their plans change. The hotels say that it is difficult to sell these rooms at the last minute because there are relatively few "walk-in" customers.

The problem has been made more acute in recent months because of the strong demand for business hotels in large American cities. "Although early departures have been an industry-wide problem for some time, increased demand has required tighter management of an already limited supply of rooms," says Hyatt.

Many business travellers book a room for longer than they actually need in case their plans change and they have to stay on.

Hyatt points out that since the surcharge was imposed at its hotels in New York and Washington as an experiment, the number of unexpected early departures has been halved. Guests are told when booking and at check-in that they face a penalty if they leave earlier than planned.

London's top hotels are also experiencing the highest level of occupancy since before the recession and they are watching the American trend closely. Leading UK-based chains, including Inter-Continental and Forte, say that they have no immediate intention to follow suit, although they are awaiting customer reaction in America.

British hoteliers are also monitoring other American hotel trends to tighten control of their room stock. A number of American chains, for example, now routinely cancel non-guaranteed bookings if guests do not check in by 4pm or fail to let the hotel know their anticipated time of arrival. This has upset many regular business travellers who are delayed arriving at their hotels by traffic or missed airline connections.

Sky-high shopping

PASSENGERS on three of British Airways' longest routes will be able to shop from their seats next spring. *Harvey Elliott writes.*

BA has signed up more than a dozen leading retail stores, including Harrods, Liberty and Aquascutum, to take part in the trial of a new "interactive" inflight shopping system. A catalogue of goods will be scrolled on a small screen in the seat back or armrest of a Boeing 747-400 jet on routes to Miami, Johannesburg and Hong Kong.

Passengers will be able to choose which items they want to buy and pay in cash or by credit card. The goods, including food hampers, silk underwear, crockery, jewellery, toys or even Tibetan carpets will then be delivered to their homes. If the experiment is a success, it is hoped to extend the service to all long-haul routes.

Research indicates that passengers will be prepared to pay between £30 and £130 on each trip. As British Airways carried more than 24 million international passengers last year, this presents them with the chance of bringing in hundreds of millions of pounds in revenue.

BA also has plans for virtual reality shopping so that passengers can browse through the department stores of the world from their seats.

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Striking at the tourism industry

SHOULD there be any lingering doubts about the political and economic power wielded by travel and tourism, the events taking place on the streets of Paris should dispel them. Scenes of marching union members, blocked roads and stony-faced commuters clearly prove that the strikes involve the one activity which affects us all — travel.

Politicians understand its importance, too, both as a source of tax revenue and as an engine to drive a nation's economy.

The World Travel and Tourism Council calculates that more than £111 billion is generated by the industry each year in France, equivalent to 14.1 per cent of its gross domestic product and providing about three million jobs.

Large building projects, retail sales, telecommunications, hotels, restaurants — even farming and fishing — all benefit from the country's attraction as an international tourism centre.

But as the importance of travel and tourism grows, so the industry increasingly becomes a target for strikes or political agitation.

For the leaders of the private companies directly or indirectly affected, the problem becomes one of deciding how far to talk up the industry's importance without signalling its vulnerability and encouraging action against it.

The Travel Business

◆

HARVEY ELLIOTT

This is what is now taking place in the French capital. And it is not just the local residents who are affected.

Tens of thousands of British and other international travellers who planned to visit Paris this month have been hit by the disputes, and many more have cancelled.

The affect of the strike action has not gone unnoticed around the world. It is easy and appealing for governments to calculate how their economies can benefit from travel and tourism and to predict growth and prosperity for their people as their tourism industry develops.

Forecasters say that over the next decade the US$3,400 billion now raised annually in revenue globally by the industry will double.

The opportunities for transport, travel and tourism are clearly enormous. The potential for political and economic mayhem, however, as Paris is now proving to the world, is even greater.

Val-d'Isère awaits 'test of the snow cannon'

By Graham Duffill

THE NAME given to the first downhill race of the Alpine ski season looks ever more inappropriate as the "Criterium de la Premier Neige", in Val-d'Isère, again faces cancellation this weekend.

If any race goes ahead, the "test of the first snow" will be more a test of the ingenuity of man as barely a flake has fallen from the sky.

In Val-d'Isère, in the French Tarentaise valley, snow cannons are working night and day. The same is true for much of the Alps, as, for the second winter running, many resorts arrive at the weekend by which they should be fully open with barely a dusting of snow.

For British skiers, suffering a disadvantageous exchange rate in three of the principal ski countries — France, Austria, and Switzerland — an uncertain start to the season could not be worse. Snow has reached the Alps only from the northeast so far, the clouds hitting Austria first and leaving most of their load in the Tyrol and on the high Arlberg range.

Most of the Tyrolean resorts have plenty of snow, but, as proof that going high does not always guarantee snow, Obergurgl, on the south side of the Tyrol has only 35cm at 2,800 metres.

According to the Ski Club of Great Britain, the high altitude French Alps are suffering similarly with only 25cm to 40cm of snow at 2,500 metres. Skiers from Val-d'Isère, where the race has been cancelled in the past two winters, are being bused to the Tignes glacier. Val Thorens, the highest of the Three Valley resorts, has ten lifts open, and Courchevel three.

In Switzerland, Verbier has no snow at resort level and 90cm on the Mont Fort Glacier, with nine lifts running, out of 39; Crans Montana has two lifts out of 42. Davos and Klosters enjoy 10cm to 40cm and Zermatt has 20 lifts open.

Across the Atlantic where the low Canadian dollar provides British skiers with an alternative to the Alps, Lake Louise and Banff on the eastern side of the Rockies, have up to 125cm of snow and all lifts open.

"It is the same picture as this time last year, but it still turned out to be a vintage winter," says David Hearns, of the Ski Club of Great Britain. "Austria has done very well from the northeast snowfalls and it is very cold across the Alps, allowing snow to be made, but there is no indication at the moment that it will change. There is no reason to panic yet, but given another two weeks, nails will begin to be bitten."

Lizzie Norton, of the skiers' travel agency, Ski Solutions, says: "It is unusual for there to be so little snow at this time, especially in the French Alps ... Tour operators are not fully booked for Christmas yet, but it is difficult to find accommodation now that is reasonable for the new year."

The daily snow reports for skiers starts in the Sports Section on Monday

Air France plans to beat crew walkout

By Harvey Elliott

AIR FRANCE hopes to operate all but six of its planned 35 flights from Britain today despite a strike by cabin crew.

The dispute, which has nothing to do with the unrest that has brought Paris and other French cities to a standstill, is over plans to improve the airline's efficiency and cut its vast debt burden, which is now running at almost £3 billion.

The dispute will however pose yet more problems for the thousands of business and leisure travellers who for the past two weeks have been subject to frustrating delays in getting to and from France.

Many tour operators are advising holidaymakers not to travel to Paris until the disputes have been settled and businessmen are cancelling proposed meetings in the French capital because it is almost impossible to move about with no trains or Metro operating.

Eurostar is running about half its scheduled trains through the tunnel and the ferries are little affected. But those motorists who do take their car across the channel could find themselves blockaded by striking lorry drivers who are abandoning their vehicles across key roads without warning.

The Air France dispute is the latest attempt to make the state-owned and heavily subsidised airline competitive, partly through a 30 per cent improvement in efficiency. Older, more highly paid staff are being offered voluntary redundancy to be replaced by the same number of younger, less well-paid stewards and stewardesses.

Although the strike has been given the backing of the two biggest airline unions, Air France hopes that a significant number of its 6,410 cabin crew will still come to work.

"We will reduce the service on board, cut the number of crew to the minimum legal requirement, pull in those who should be off duty and do all we can to keep the aircraft flying," an Air France spokeswoman said last night.

But passengers who have paid for tickets will not receive a refund if they decide that travelling to France just now is not worth the hassle.

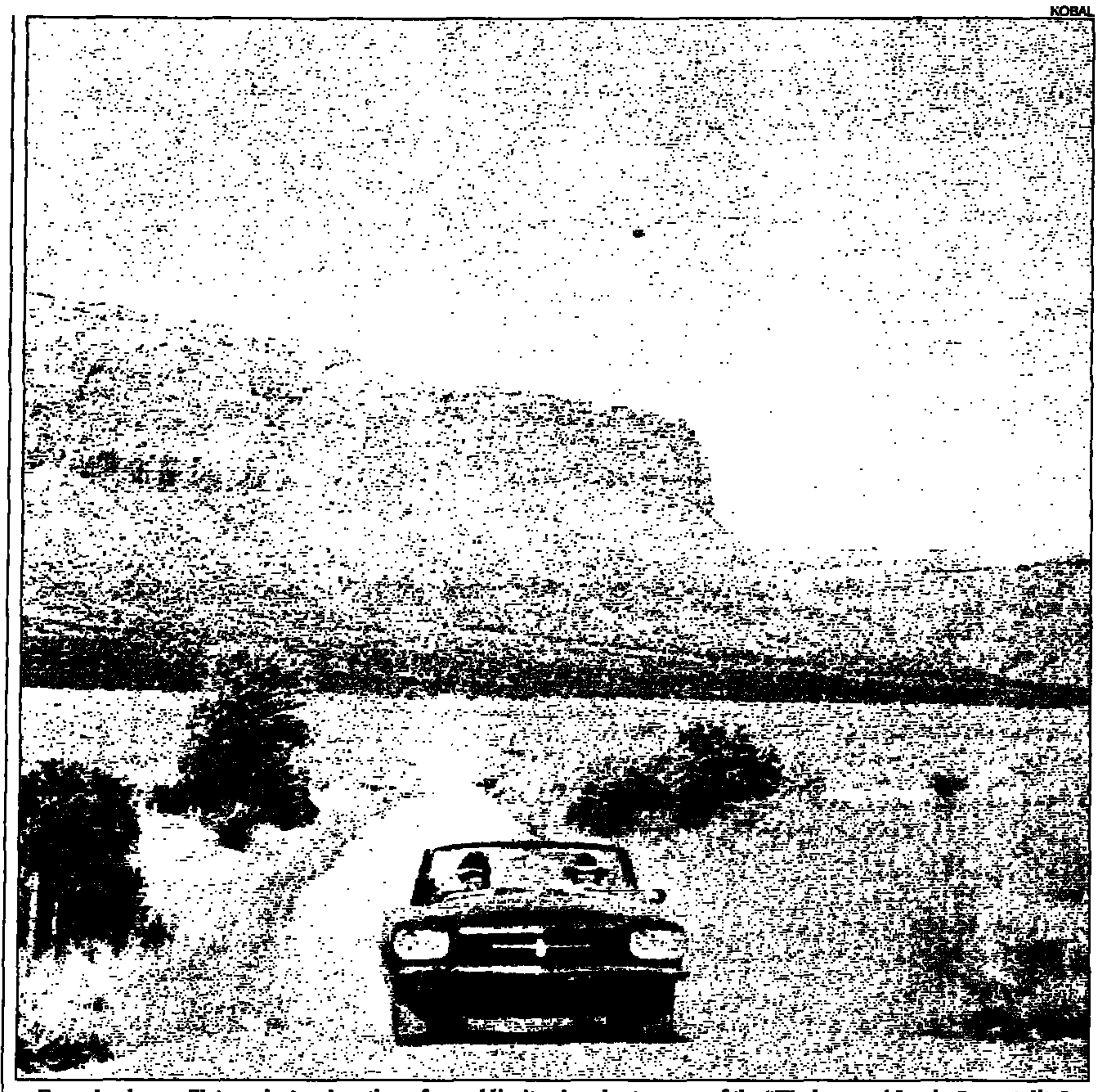
"As long as we can get them from A to B we will be fulfilling our part of the contract," Air France said.

It is a view repeated by British Airways which says that it will not give refunds to passengers who have paid in advance for cheap Apex or World Offer tickets but who no longer want to fly, although those who have bought fully flexible full-fare tickets will be allowed to cancel.

Credit card users who buy tickets with plastic will not be refunded either, though some tour operators, such as Thomson and Cresta, are ringing customers to urge them not to travel and offering them alternative dates and destinations, or their money back.

Cresta reckons the strikes have cost it £100,000 in refunds and cancellations; it has stopped taking bookings until the end of the year. Time Off has an automatic, if unusual, free travel insurance cover which provides refunds to those who are subjected to "unreasonable delays or cancellation caused by strikes".

To check whether your flight is operating call Air France reservations on 0181-742-6600. Eurostar information is on 0345-881881.



KOBAL

Freewheelers: will America's relaxation of speed limits give rise to more of the "Thelma and Louise" mentality?

America lets off the brakes

By Quentin Letts

AMERICAN speed limits are about to change. From tomorrow individual states will have the freedom to lift the 55mph limit imposed by the Federal Government in 1974 to conserve energy.

For British tourists it will mean the end of the agonisingly slow drives across north America's vast stretches, but only in some areas. Some states are expected to take a wait-and-see approach, fearing that an immediate hike in speeds may increase road deaths. The popular destinations of Florida, New York, Connecticut, Vermont and Louisiana, for instance, plan no immediate change to speed limits.

Colorado has drafted legislation for a 75mph limit on main roads, which should improve driving times from Denver airport to the Rockies ski resorts. Utah, growing in popularity with skiers, is going up to 70mph. California intends to introduce speed limits of 65mph or 70mph, although the notorious traffic jams around Los Angeles will probably make a nonsense of that. Of the big country states, Texas is heading for 70mph, while Nevada, Kansas and Wyoming will opt for 75mph.

Montana will continue to be the place for speed freaks. Taking its cue from Germany, the northwestern state intends to have no speed limit at all on main roads during daylight hours. Even under the old rules, Montana's motorists liked to move fast. Abuse of the federal limit met with nothing more than a $5 fine.

Advocates of faster speeds argued that the 55mph maximum created its own hazards, sending some drivers to sleep on long drives. American drivers have poor lane discipline and overtaking on the inside lane is a common occurrence, and is permitted in some states.

The American Automobile Association advises tourists to check with car hire companies before they take to the road, and to beware of the state-to-state variations. George Viverette, of the AAA, said: "It will no longer be possible to cross the country with your cruise control set to one speed. Our advice is to go the speed at which you feel comfortable. If you find you are gripping the wheel too tightly, it is probably time to slack up."

Travellers snap up £39 flights to Florida

By Harvey Elliott

MORE THAN 2,500 holidaymakers have snapped up £39 return air tickets to Orlando, Florida, with a hire car included, in a spontaneous rush to beat the early winter snow and bitter cold.

Liberty World Travel, of Blackpool, offered the cut-price fares through a series of television advertisements and were sold out within hours as families decided to find the sun before Christmas.

Prices have now risen to £69 return — but there are snags. Passengers also have to agree to pay £64 a week insurance on the hire car, plus £49 per person for general holiday insurance and £36 airport tax. And they must be prepared to travel at almost a moment's notice.

"We can buy tickets from charter airlines at the last moment for up to £160 each, sell them on for as little as £39 and still make a profit through the compulsory insurance policies," said Ian Warren, the firm's managing director. "We buy the airlines' problems — and there is a real problem with over-capacity on the Orlando routes."

The flights, on airlines such as Air 2000, Airtours and Air UK Leisure, are from Manchester, Gatwick or Luton; the next flight is due to leave tomorrow and there are a few tickets still available from £69 return, plus the additional costs.

"Next summer looks as if it is going to be just as crowded with more airlines coming onto the route," said Mr Warren. "We are already able to offer guaranteed return fares in May and June for £159, instead of £329, and we even have some returns available over the peak Christmas period at £139."

Hotel accommodation, which the 11-year-old fully bonded company can also supply, is optional.

The transatlantic fare is believed to be the lowest ever offered and even the additional cost of insurance can be offset with savings on duty-free drinks, said Mr Warren.

Eco-friendly sites selected

By Tony Dawe

A BADGER wood in Hampshire and an endangered rainforest in Costa Rica are among 15 tourism projects which have been shortlisted for a prestigious environment award sponsored by British Airways.

Judges, led by David Bellamy, the popular botanist, praised the links between the projects and local communities and their educational value. The winner of the Tourism for Tomorrow Global Award will be announced in February and will go to the development which best meets "the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs".

The New Forest Badger Watch at the home of Alistair Kilburn has made the list of finalists because it provides an opportunity for thousands of people to watch badgers in their natural habitat and collect scientific information.

Visitors creep into a darkened hide where they listen to a taped commentary by Mr Kilburn and, once they are settled and silent, the lights come up to reveal half-a-dozen badgers rooting in the undergrowth and even creeping into a sett visible from the hide.

Four more projects in the British Isles have also been shortlisted. The sea-to-sea cycle route through Durham and Cumbria, the combined effort of a charity and 14 local authorities, has been praised for encouraging cycling tourists and stimulating the local economy. A British Waterways ecology project which includes a "beastie tank" to educate people about canal wildlife has also been selected.

In Ireland, the restoration of the Ballinamore to Ballyconnell canal to open up 200 miles of waterway from Lough Erne to Shannon and the development of Dublin's cultural quarter in Temple Bar have made the shortlist.

The Costa Rica project is a five-acre site which uses the proceeds from tourism to acquire and protect endangered rainforest and to educate and motivate guests about the importance of conservation.

A project in a Cameroons rainforest, a camp and conservation area in the Masai Mara in Kenya and the restoration of the Royal Naval Dockyard in Bermuda are among other schemes on the list.

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£81	GB: London-Oxford Circus • A: (ATS 1.380) Salzburg • D: (DM 198) Berlin-Kurfürstendamm • Cologne City Center • Dortmund • Hamburg • Hannover Airport • Mannheim • Munich • Schwerin • Suhl • F: (FF 675) Paris-Rive Gauche • I: (LIT 198.000) Dimaro • IL: (US$ 127) Tiberias • NL: (Dfl 220) Amsterdam-Schiphol • Maastricht • OMN: (OR 49) Salalah • SA: (SR 476) Riyadh • TR: (US$ 127) Istanbul-Atakoy Marina
£96	GB: London-Heathrow • London-Kensington • London-Kings Cross/Bloomsbury • B: (BF 4.700) Brugge • CH: (SFR 190) Geneva • D: (DM 230) Berlin City Center • Frankfurt Conference Center • Frankfurt-Main-Taunus-Zentrum • Heidelberg • F: (FF 790) Paris-Tour Eiffel • I: (LIT 231.000) Rome-Eur Parco dei Medici • IL: (US$ 148) Eilat • NL: (Dfl 260) Amsterdam City Centre • SA: (SR 555) Yanbu • TR: (US$ 148) Istanbul
£109	GB: London-Mayfair • D: (DM 260) Düsseldorf-Königsallee • F: (FF 900) Paris-République • I: (LIT 265.000) Rome-St. Peter's • Rome-Minerva (LIT 125.000 supplement) • IL: (US$ 170) Jerusalem • Tel Aviv • KWT: (KD 51) Kuwait • UAE: (UAE DHS 625) Dubai

Prices include buffet breakfast for up to two adults and two children aged 12 and under sharing their parents' room and are valid from 15 December 1995 to 29 February 1996 (some hotels until 31 January 1996 - please check availability of offer at time of booking). The Kids Eat Free offer applies to two children aged 12 and under dining with their parents. Bookings are subject to availability of rooms allocated to this offer. Rates are payable in local currency as indicated. The Pound Sterling prices indicate the approximate equivalent of the local price. For full terms and conditions, please refer to the Weekender Plus brochure.

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NEWS

Accountants face record damages

■ A total of 150 top accountants could face financial ruin after a record damages award in the High Court against their firm for £65 million. An electronic security company won the damages from the accountant BDO Binder Hamlyn.

A judge severely criticised crucial information volunteered by the firm during a takeover bid. The award is believed to be the biggest in the UK against an accountancy firm ....**Page 1**

Calculator ban for children

■ Calculators are to be banned in one of two maths papers to be sat by 11-year-olds next year because government advisers have found a worrying lack of mathematical ability in tests taken this summer. The School Curriculum and Assessment Authority has also urged the Education Secretary to introduce a similar ban in tests for 14-year-olds by 1997 .... **Pages 1, 19**

Bart's lifeline

St Bartholomew's Hospital, one of the oldest in the country, could be saved from closure by a proposal to keep it going with a combination of state, charitable and private funding..........**Page 2**

Royal jewels found

The FBI in New York recovered the Duchess of York's stolen jewellery from an airport baggage handler, Gilbert Terrero, who was charged. Five diamonds are still missing ....**Pages 3, 18**

Cold chaos

The cold weather brought four deaths on the roads and left thousands struggling on motorways. Up to three inches of snow fell in Kent and Surrey, and more is forecast ....***Page 5***

'Mad cow' meat fears

Parents and schools were accused of overreacting to fears of "mad cow" disease as the beef industry reported a 5 per cent drop in sales last month .... **Pages 6, 19**

Radiotherapy injuries

Women who received radiotherapy for breast cancer have suffered arm and shoulder injuries. Some are in constant pain and have paralysed arms ....**Page 7**

Parents' decision

The parents of a baby girl suffering from weak bones must decide soon whether to allow her leg to be amputated or for her to face a childhood of operations....**Page 8**

Low-fish fingers

Most brands of fish fingers sold in Britain are short of fish, according to research covering 12 European countries. Only two of 27 UK brands contain more than 65 per cent fish ....**Page 9**

Jupiter mission

A probe from the Galileo spacecraft will parachute into Jupiter's atmosphere today and beam 75 minutes of information to Earth before burning up or crumpling under pressure................**Page 11**

Greenpeace appeal

Greenpeace appealed against a decision by a French Polynesian court to allow the French Navy to keep two of its vessels which were seized during September's anti-nuclear protest .... **Page 12**

Germans for Bosnia

The German Parliament voted 543 to 107 to send 4,000 troops to police the Bosnia peace accord. Most will be medical and communications staff .... **Page 13**

French day of action

Students, teachers and public sector unions will take to the streets of France in what may be the fiercest challenge so far to the Government.............**Pages 14, 18**

Kohl crisis

Helmut Kohl may lose his partner, the small Free Democrat party. Günter Rexrodt, the Free Democrat Economics Minister, is expected to resign .... **Pages 15, 19**

Mirror writing girl rights herself

■ Vicky Wilmore, 10, from Manchester, baffled doctors by writing everything upside down and back to front. But while watching Manchester United being knocked out of the UEFA Cup on television she slumped back in disappointment and cracked her head on a table. Next day her writing disorder, which had lasted a year, corrected itself ....**Page 1**

LUCIANO MELLACE/REUTERS

John Major with Lamberto Dini, the Italian Prime Minister, in Florence yesterday at the start of their summit meeting. Page 1

BUSINESS

Economy: A slight rise in Britain's manufacturing production during October has cast more doubt over the Chancellor's optimistic Budget growth forecast .... **Page 25**

Forte: The group stepped up its defence against the unwanted takeover bid from Granada with the sale of Griersons, the wine and spirits wholesaler, to Matthew Clark..................................**Page 25**

Bass: The hotels and pubs group sidestepped mounting speculation that it was about to bid for Ladbroke ....**Page 25**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index fell 1.4 points to close at 3662.8. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from 82.8 to 82.9 after a rise from $1.5403 to $1.5407 and from DM2.2122 to DM2.2217 ....**Page 28**

SPORT

Rugby union: The Northampton half backs, Paul Grayson and Matt Dawson, will win their first England caps against Western Samoa on December 16............... **Page 48**

Cricket: John Crawley will bat No 3 for the England touring side against Boland, confirming that he will replace Mark Ramprakash in the Test team......................**Page 45**

Football: The struggle between the Chelsea chairman, Ken Bates, and director Matthew Harding for control of the club could come to a head at today's board meeting.. **Page 44**

Sport and law: Lord Prosser agreed in the Edinburgh Court of Sessions to Everton's appeal for a judicial review of Duncan Ferguson's 12-match suspension by the Scottish Football Association........ **Page 48**

ARTS

New films: *The American President*, the big Hollywood release of the week, is a disappointment, but Diane Keaton delights with her directorial debut feature, *Unstrung Heroes*............................**Page 37**

Young at Art: Every Saturday morning youngsters have the opportunity to learn about every aspect of film-making, from loading the camera to choosing the best location ....**Page 38**

Christmas shows: A fine production of *The Jungle Book* at the Young Vic is high on Benedict Nightingale's list of seasonal recommendations ....**Page 39**

Musical low: Maria Ewing takes over as Tosca at Covent Garden, looking good but singing poorly.................................**Page 39**

Growing concern: Dr Trisha Greenhalgh on the factors which govern human height and whether shortness matters .... **Page 16**

Nanny France: Kate Muir finds Big Brother alive and well and living in Paris..................................... **Page 17**

Spinster act: *Julia Llewellyn Smith talks to Lois Maxwell, the original* Miss Moneypenny............ **Page 17**

Le strike: Air France is struggling with services from Britain after cabin crew walked out ......**Page 23**

FOCUS

National Lottery: The good causes that benefit from our national numbers game .... ***Pages 33,34***

BOOKS

The melting pot: Roger Scruton on Clinton's guru; Jonathan Clark on the European empires in the New World; Christopher Hawtree on Edmund Wilson............... **Page 40**

THE PAPERS

The EU's architects underestimated the pain of reaching their goal, but France's troubles need not unravel the vision of a united Europe — *The New York Times*

Eurosceptics are rubbing their hands at the sight of France brought to standstill. But to blame the chaos on monetary convergence is to look down the wrong end of the telescope — *Evening Standard*

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ EDUCATION
Are schools losing sight of what Christmas is really about?

■ FRIDAY PEOPLE
The Bernard Levin column, Caitlin Moran on pop, and the Valerie Grove interview

Preview: The founder of the scout movement comes under scrutiny in *Secret Lives: Baden-Powell* (Channel 4, 9pm). **Review:** Matthew Bond enjoys a documentary about a swimming pool..............**Page 47**

Man of the hour

The only man with the stature to rescue Europe from disaster is Helmut Kohl. All Europeans must now hope that Herr Kohl can be brought to see that he is making a mistake on a tragic scale....**Page 19**

Survival courses

National testing of schoolchildren has endured the assaults of the teaching profession and its allies in the Labour party — and it has survived..............................**Page 19**

The right subsidy

A nation building opera houses and art galleries, while letting its arts wither for lack of £5 million, brings glory to no-one ......**Page 19**

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

The French commentator François de Closets coined the phrase "La France Schizophrène" to describe the present French state of mind. This echoes the current German view of France's attitude towards Europe...............................**Page 18**

PHILIP HOWARD

There may be even a bit of *Schadenfreude* about the fabulously rich losing a fabled bauble. *The theft of a diamond necklace is more of a victimless crime than fraudulently dealing in derivatives: duchesses can stand their loss better than pensioners* ....**Page 18**

BILL CASH

This is the time for a Secretary-General of Nato who would take steps to prevent German designs for a common defence policy — not for a man such as Javier Solana, whose track record would point in the opposite direction ....**Page 18**

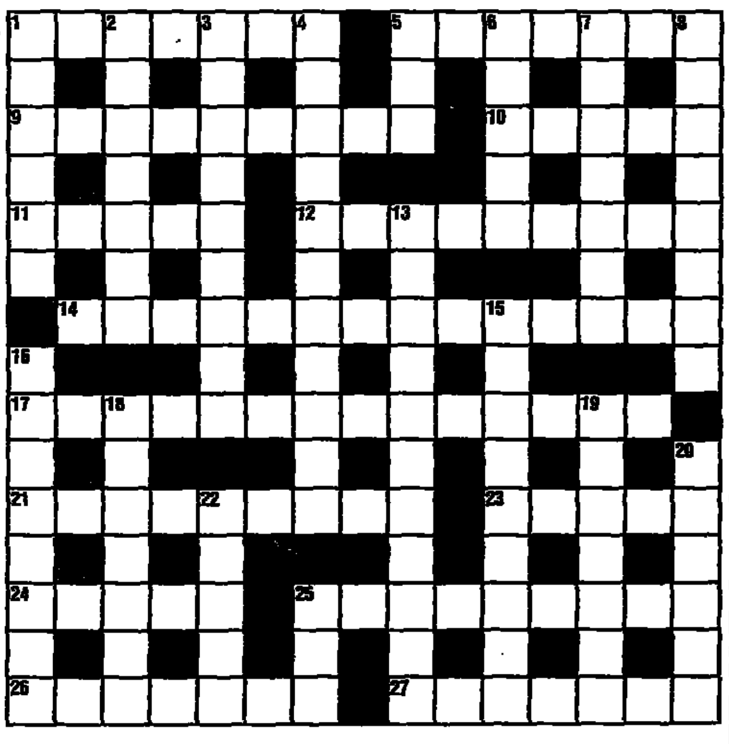
OBITUARIES

Lord Matthews, former deputy chairman of Trafalgar House; **Howard Higman**, sociologist; **Lady Hilda Swan**, language school director; **The Rev Robert Coulson**, Anglican priest ..**Page 21**

LETTERS

A levels; BSE; Atherton's triumph; anniversary in East Timor; royal crowns and royal jewels....**Page 19**

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,032



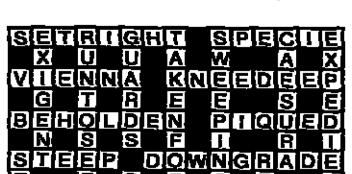
ACROSS

1 Main scene from the pilot's position (7).
5 Ordinary pedestrian (7).
9 I race after game and collapse (9).
10 Start to break articles — and get into hot water? (5).
11 Within impressionism, one titan (5).
12 Sailor may snatch rum (9).
14 Revolutionary form of communication (8,6).
17 Tattered beaters ran around in coats of this sort (6-8).
21 Consumers prepared for shocks (9).
23 Handy cover for front of garden with nothing on it (5).
24 Relative reported as cheat (5).
25 Demonstrating about diminished state funding (9).
26 Cocktail served in the passenger's compartment? (4-3).
27 In French, the accent can be cut with a knife (7).

DOWN

1 It provides the plate, and capital, to support church (6).
2 Perhaps I can hit the bottle with this abroad? (7).
3 Sensible motorists split the parking money once (9).
4 Rewritten by Lear — still humorous, as an example (11).
5 It may be cushioned for safety (3).
6 Piece of gold required for round trip (5).
7 Car rug obtainable in a vending machine (7).
8 The dailies are less smutty on the Sabbath (8).
13 Monopolize rock for the foundation (11).
15 Gentle departure, moving at a comfortable pace (9).
16 Puts forward proposals (8).
18 Not prepared for wall-papering — and going to any lengths to show it! (7).
19 Outlandish pieces from books one accountant turned up (7).
20 Blackbird familiar to Darwin (6).
22 Like mysterious letters from the local police about Northern Ireland (5).
25 The average fish has a short tail (3).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,031



Times Two Crossword, page 48

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code:

Greater London	701
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Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
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Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

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National traffic and roadworks

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Tynemouth, Tyne and Wear, 7C (45F); lowest day max: Liscombe, Somerset, -1C (30F); highest rainfall: Aberdeen, Grampian, .29in; highest sunshine: Fishguard, Dyfed, 5.4hr.

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FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales will be generally cloudy, with snow flurries. These will be heaviest and more persistent in northeast England and the Pennines where there could be some accumulations especially over the hills.

The western side of England and Wales should just see an isolated wintry shower, and some sunny spells.

Scotland and Northern Ireland, will also be cloudy, with outbreaks of snow. The heaviest and most persistent again in the east, and there could well be some accumulations over the hills.

☐ **London, Central S, Central N, SE, SW, E England, E Anglia, E, W Midlands, Channel Isles, S Wales:** cloudy with light snow flurries. Wind gentle southeasterly. Max 2C (36F).

☐ **N Wales, NW England, Lake District, N Ireland:** cloudy with some brighter spells and isolated wintry showers, especially on high ground. Wind moderate southeasterly. Max 4C (39F).

☐ **Isle of Man, SW, NW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll:** starting cloudy with some brighter spells and scattered wintry showers later in the day. Wind fresh southeast. Max 6C (43F).

☐ **NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney:** cloudy with flurries of snow, some thick and heavy. Wind moderate to fresh southeasterly. Max 3C (37F).

☐ **Outlook:** wintry showers over Scotland and northeast England, otherwise generally and cloudy.

AROUND BRITAIN

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

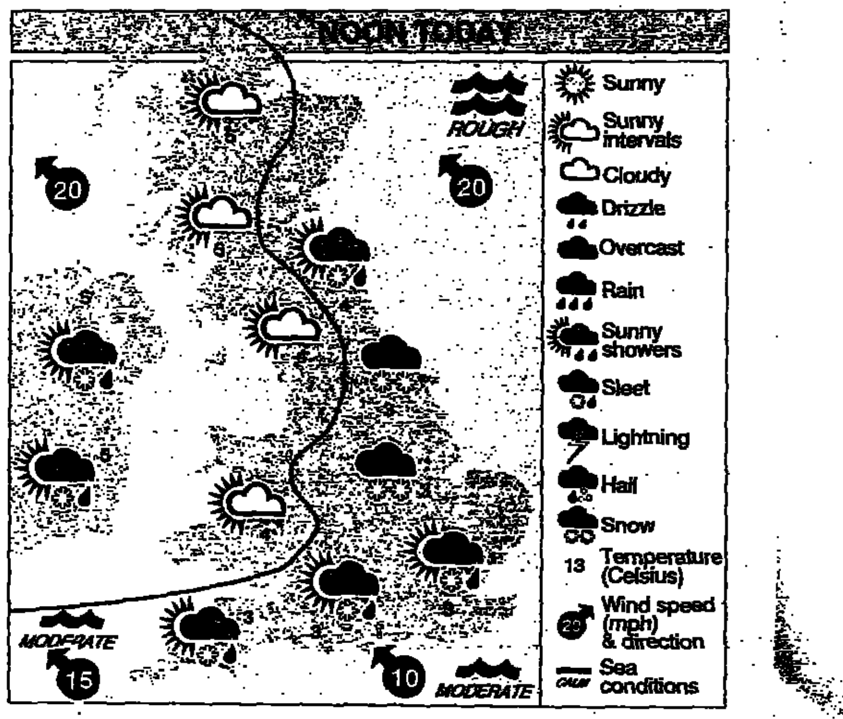
	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	-	0.29	5	41	h	Liverpool	0.1	0.02	4	39	sh
Anglesey	2.0	0.02	5	41	sh	London	-	0.04	1	34	sn
Aspatria	-	-	3	37	sh	Lowestoft	-	0.05	2	36	sn
Aviemore	1.8	-	4	39	sn	Manchester	0.9	0.02	4	39	sl
Belfast	0.4	0.01	5	41	h	Margate	-	0.08	0	32	sn
Birmingham	-	0.01	1	34	sn	Minehead	-	-	2	36	sl
Bognor R	-	0.04	3	37	sn	Morecambe	-	-	5	41	du
Bournem'th	-	0.01	1	34	sn	Newcastle	-	0.18	6	43	sh
Bristol	-	-	1	34	c	Newquay	5.1	-	2	36	s
Buxton	0.3	0.13	1	34	sl	Norwich	-	-	1	34	sn
Cardiff	0.8	-	1	34	sn	Nottingham	X				
Clacton	-	0.02	2	36	sn	Oxford	X				
Cleethorpes	X					Penzance	3.5	-	4	39	b
Colwyn Bay	X					Plymouth	X				
Cromer	-	-	2	36	sn	Poole	-	0.01	1	34	sn
Doncaster	X					Prestatyn	X	-	5	41	sl
Eastbourne	-	0.02	0	32	sn	Ross-o-wye	-	0.01	1	34	sl
Edinburgh	1.3	0.04	5	41	sl	Ryde	X				
Eskdalemuir	0.3	0.02	2	36	sn	Salcombe	X				
Exmouth	2.1	-	1	34	sn	Sandown	-	0.02	1	34	sn
Falmouth	4.7	-	3	37	s	Saunton Snd	2.5	-	3	37	b
Fishguard	5.4	-	3	37	sn	Scarboro'	-	0.15	5	41	du
Folkestone	-	0.03	0	32	sn	Shanklin	-	0.02	1	34	sn
Glasgow	0.2	-	5	41	sh	Shrewsbury	0.9	-	3	37	sn
Guernsey	-	0.20	2	36	sn	Skegness	-	0.02	4	39	sl
Hastings	-	0.08	0	32	sn	Southend	-	0.06	1	34	sl
Hayling I	-	0.07	1	34	sn	Southport	X				
Herne Bay	-	0.07	0	32	sn	Southsea	X				
Hove	-	-	1	34	c	St. Ives	X				
Hunstanton	-	0.02	3	37	sn	Stornoway	4.6	-	6	43	s
Ilfracombe	0.2	-	1	34	c	Swanage	-	-	2	36	sn
Isle of Man	0.7	0.02	6	43	sh	Teignmouth	2.9	-	1	34	b
Jersey	0.6	0.01	1	34	sn	Tiree	0.5	-	5	41	sh
Kinloss	0.8	-	4	39	b	Torquay	-	-	2	36	c
Leeds	0.2	0.15	4	39	sl	Tynemouth	-	0.12	7	45	sh
Lerwick	4.8	-	4	39	s	Ventnor	-	0.02	1	34	sn
Leuchars	0.7	0.14	6	43	h	West-s-mare	X				
Littlehmptn	-	0.04	4	39	sl	Weymouth	-	-	3	37	sn

ABROAD

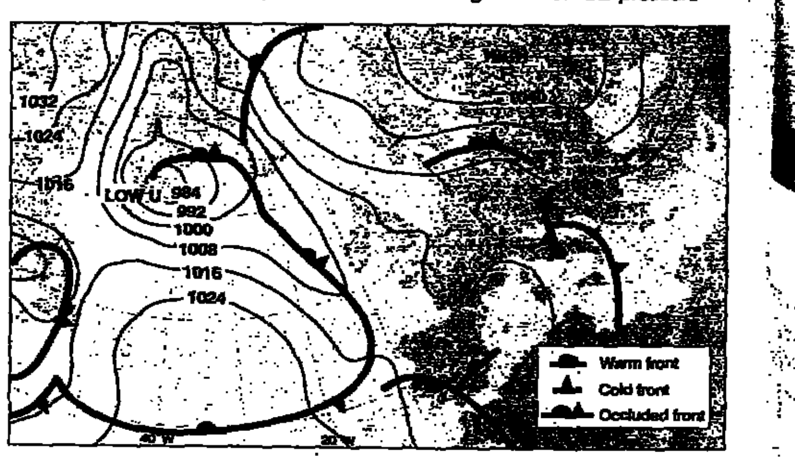
Ajaccio	12	54	f	Corfu	17	63	f	Madrid	6	43	f	Rio de J	24	75	f
Akrotiri	18	65	s	C'phagn	2	36	f	Majorca	13	55	s	Rome	14	57	f
Alex'dria	21	70	f	Dublin	4	39	c	Malaga	16	61	s	S Paulo	25	77	c
Algiers	14	57	f	Dubrovnik	10	50	r	Malta	14	57	r	Salzburg	-3	27	c
Amst'dm	-4	25	s	Faro	14	57	f	Melb'rne	16	61	f	Santiago	22	72	s
Athens	15	59	f	Florence	8	46	f	Mexico C	21	70	s	Seoul	1	34	s
B Aires	32	90	s	Frankfurt	-3	27	c	Miami	28	82	f	Sing'por	27	81	f
Bahrain	20	68	r	Funchal	16	61	c	Milan	6	43	f	St'kholm	-2	28	c
Bangkok	29	84	s	Geneva	1	34	c	Montreal	-6	21	-	Strasb'rg	0	32	c
Barcelona	9	48	f	Gibraltar	16	61	f	Moscow	-8	18	sn	Sydney	24	75	f
Beirut	18	64	s	Helsinki	-6	21	sn	Munich	-4	25	c	Tangier	17	63	s
Belfast	5	41	c	Hong K	19	66	s	N Delhi	22	72	s	Tel Aviv	18	64	s
Belgrade	0	32	f	Innsbrck	-1	30	s	N York	4	39	f	Tenerife	22	72	s
Berlin	-6	21	sn	Istanbul	13	55	f	Nairobi	26	79	f	Tokyo	13	55	s
Bermuda	21	70	f	Jeddah	29	84	s	Naples	15	59	f	Toronto	2	36	f
Biarritz	7	45	f	Jo'burg	22	72	f	Nice	10	50	s	Tunis	15	59	c
Borde'x	4	39	s	Karachi	29	84	s	Oslo	-3	27	c	Valencia	10	50	f
Brussels	-3	27	sn	L Angels	19	66	f	Paris	0	32	c	Vanc'ver	1	34	s
Budapst	-1	30	sn	L Palmas	21	70	f	Peking	4	39	s	Venice	7	45	f
Cairo	21	70	f	Le Touqt	0	32	f	Perth	30	86	s	Vienna	0	32	sn
Cape Tn	24	75	s	Lisbon	11	52	f	Prague	-5	23	c	Warsaw	-7	19	f
Ch'church	16	61	c	Locarno	5	41	f	Reykjavik	3	37	f	Wash'ton	6	43	f
Chicago	6	43	s	Luxembg	-3	27	c	Rhodes	17	63	s	Wel'ngton	16	61	f
Cologne	-3	27	c	Luxor	25	77	s	Rio de J	25	77	f	Zurich	0	32	c

Temperatures at midday local time X = not available

NOON TODAY



Changes to chart below from noon: High F will decline and sink southeast. Low U will remain in a similar position with little change to its central pressure



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	1:36	6.93	1:55	6.84	Leith	2:21	5.30	2:40	5.39
Aberdeen	1:05	4.16	1:24	4.24	Liverpool	11:12	9.00	11:30	8.98
Avonmouth	7:06	12.79	7:29	12.70	Lowestoft	9:28	2.41	9:34	2.50
Belfast	10:59	3.61	11:21	3.27	Margate	—	—	0:11	4.55
Cardiff	7:01	11.89	7:23	11.75	Milford Haven	6:08	6.78	6:29	6.71
Devonport	5:35	5.35	5:54	5.20	Newquay	4:54	6.51	5:13	6.41
Dover	11:00	6.47	11:22	6.53	Oban	6:26	3.91	5:50	3.94
Dublin	11.46	4.10	11:57	3.89	Penzance	4:37	5.28	4:52	5.18
Falmouth	5:01	5.06	5:16	4.79	Portland	6:27	2.12	6:47	1.92
Glasgow	0:30	4.45	0:41	4.73	Portsmouth	11:15	4.62	11:38	4.52
Harwich	11:53	3.88	—	—	Shoreham	11:18	6.03	11:41	5.98
Holyhead	10:17	5.43	10:32	5.28	Southampton	10:42	4.49	11:03	4.31
Hull	6:13	7.01	6:32	7.16	Swansea	6:13	9.15	6:34	9.08
Ilfracombe	5:51	8.93	6:13	8.83	Tees	3:29	5.04	3:49	5.13
King's Lynn	6:14	6.35	6:32	6.48	W'ton-on-Nze	11:49	3.89	—	—

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 7.51 am
Sun sets: 3.53 pm
Moon sets 7.47 am
Moon rises 4.42 pm

Full moon today

London 3.53 pm to 7.52 am
Bristol 4.02 pm to 8.02 am
Edinburgh 3.40 pm to 8.29 am
Manchester 3.51 pm to 8.11 am
Penzance 4.20 pm to 8.07 am

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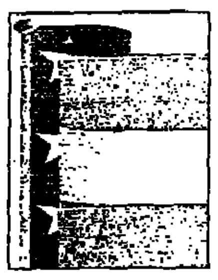
ECONOMIC VIEW 29

Janet Bush on the Chancellor's act of faith



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Battle for Bridge comes to head at board meeting

FIRST YEAR OF THE LOTTERY
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THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

THURSDAY DECEMBER 7 1995

Output fall fuels rate cut pressure

By Janet Bush, economics correspondent

A SHARP decline in industrial output has raised fresh doubts about Kenneth Clarke's optimistic Budget growth forecast, increasing pressure on the Chancellor to cut interest rates.

Industrial production fell by 0.9 per cent in October, hit by weak energy demand caused by the mild autumn, and is just 0.5 per cent higher than this time last year. Manufacturing output edged up just 0.2 per cent, leaving growth of just one per cent year-on-year.

The small rise in manufacturing output followed the 0.6 per cent fall registered in September. The most likely explanation for weak output from manufacturing is the huge build up of stock levels by £1.3 billion in the second and third quarters of this year. Until some of those stocks are sold, manufacturers have little incentive to produce and, even if demand holds up, output is not likely to bounce back quickly.

Ian Shepherdon of HSBC Markets said that the Treasury's argument that de-stocking will be gradual and will have only a limited impact on growth was complacent.

The recent purchasing managers' report suggested that manufacturing production remained subdued and may even have deteriorated further in November. The purchasing managers index fell below the 50 per cent mark, signalling a contraction in manufacturing activity for the first time in three years.

Yesterday's figures underlined City scepticism that Kenneth Clarke's forecast of 3 per cent growth next year can be attainable and strengthened certainty that there will be base rate cuts in the week ahead. The only disagreement is whether the first cut will come after next Wednesday's monetary meeting or whether the Chancellor will wait until the spring, when he will have more data at his disposal.

Also published by the CSO yesterday were cyclical indicators for October. The longer leading index, which is designed to signal turning points in the economy 12 months in advance, continued to drop as it has done since the middle of last year. The fact that this has not yet turned upwards in theory suggests that there will be no pick-up in growth at least until the end of 1996, very close to the election. In addition, the shorter-leading index, signalling turning points six months ahead, fell for the first time for six months.

Expanding on yesterday's manufacturing figures, the CSO said that just over half of manufacturing industries have shown rises in the past quarter including transport equipment, the electrical and optical industries and energy-related sectors such as mineral oil and coke refining. But there were falls in textiles, leather and clothing, food drink and tobacco and in machinery and equipment. This last item, as Simon Briscoe of Nikko Europe commented, does not point to a big pick up in investment in the months ahead.

☐ German industrial output fell a seasonally adjusted 1.6 per cent in October and was down 2.5 per cent year-on-year. The median forecast was for a 0.5 per cent monthly improvement. September data was slightly revised, with output down 1.8 per cent from a year earlier. A two-month comparison showed that output declined 2.5 per cent in September and October.

Rate cut call, page 26
Economic View, page 29

£3bn gilt auction disappoints

By Janet Bush
Economics correspondent

ANOTHER disappointing auction of gilt-edged stock yesterday failed to dampen hopes of lower interest rates.

The £3 billion auction of 7.5 per cent gilts to mature in 2006 attracted bids of only 1.12 times the total, a poor performance. It followed an auction of the same amount of the same stock in September that was undersubscribed for the first time since this method of selling gilts was instituted in 1987.

Yesterday's outcome is a further warning for the Government, which increased its forecasts for the public sector borrowing requirement substantially in last week's Budget. Instead of the £13 billion that was forecast in the 1994 Budget, the forecast is £22.5 billion.

However, gilt prices finished strongly as yesterday's weak UK industrial production figures buoyed hopes for base rate cuts and there was news of a much larger than expected drop of 0.5 per cent in US October leading indicators.

This sent German bunds, US Treasuries and gilts higher because they strengthen the case for the Federal Reserve to cut US rates.

Equities in London were subdued, with the FT-SE 100 index of leading shares closing 1.4 lower, at 3,662.8, after recovering from a mid-session loss of 17.2 points.

David Stevens, left, of Forte, with Hugh Etheridge of Matthew Clark, Keith Hamill and Peter Huntley, yesterday

Forte sells wine business for £22m

By Eric Reguly

FORTE, under takeover threat from Granada, continued its house cleaning yesterday with the sale of Griersons, the third largest wine and spirits wholesaler, to Matthew Clark for £22.7 million.

Matthew Clark said it will integrate Griersons with Freetraders Group, its national wholesale division. The process could see as many as half of Grierson's 320 employees lose their jobs. Peter Huntley, Matthew Clark's business development director, said: "Significant cost savings will come out of rationalisation of the network."

Keith Hamill, Forte's finance director, said: "This transaction continues the process of focusing management and financial resources on our core business while reducing debt."

Grierson's was barely profitable under Forte, generating an operating profit of £1 million on turnover of £71.6 million in the year to January 31. This year, it paid a £10 million dividend to Forte.

☐ IBCA, the credit rating agency, has placed Forte's debt ratings on watch with negative implications. It said Forte's planned demerger, to split the company into a hotels and a restaurants business, "raises no new funds and the rating of the resulting parts may not be as good as that of the existing company."

Pennington, page 27

Mis-selling could cost Barclays £58m

By Robert Miller

BARCLAYS LIFE has set aside £58 million to cover the cost of mis-selling personal pensions.

The company, publicly rebuked in July last year for breaking the rules laid down by the Securities and Investments Board, has already paid £1 million to nurses, teachers and local government employees who were wrongly advised to transfer out of, or not join, their generous occupational pension schemes. The rule breaches included inadequate training and supervision of sales staff and failure to keep proper records.

Barclays Life had a 2 per cent market share before withdrawing in 1993. Nigel Jerome, manager of the Barclays pensions review centre which employs 55 staff and costs more than £2 million a year to run, said the compensation payments ranged from £250 to £86,000 in a case where someone had died and a death-in-service benefit was due to the widow. A few have also received ex-gratia "distress" payments of up to £750. The average payment is £6,500 but this is not expected to be the long term norm.

Barclays Life, which is reviewing 13,000 potential mis-selling cases, has sent out 650,000 letters as part of its exercise to indentify possible victims.

Lloyds Abbey Life, a subsidiary of Lloyds Bank with a 3 per cent market share, has set aside a record £80 million and made 50,000 telephone calls. About 13,000 investors have moved home and Barclays is to ask the Department of Social Security to try to trace these people through their National Insurance numbers.

Directors' pay outstrips staff wages

By Philip Bassett
Industrial editor

PAY rises for many of Britain's company directors are still running ahead of wage rises generally, according to a new survey today.

The Institute of Directors/Reward survey of the remuneration of almost 5,000 directors suggests average pay rises of 3-3.5 per cent, which business leaders say is "in line with those received by other groups of workers".

But the unpublicised detail shows 44 per cent of directors overall received awards of more than 4 per cent; 34 per cent got 5 per cent plus; 15 per cent got 10 per cent or more; while 6 per cent received more than 16 per cent. Fourteen per cent of directors, including 30 per cent of company chairman, received no pay rise.

The general level of settlements is around 3 per cent.

Blair aims at 'feel-good' factor

By Philip Bassett
Industrial editor

BUSINESS leaders last night were told by Tony Blair that a Labour Government would be better for business than the Conservatives.

Speaking in London to the annual dinner of Confederation of British Industry leaders in the South East, Mr Blair said that in the past Labour had simply sought to reassure businesses that it would not damage them.

But the Labour party leader said that new Labour has moved beyond that to the point "where we can state with conviction that a Labour Government would be better for business, and for lasting economic strength, than the current administration".

Mr Blair, who was questioned for half an hour on Labour's policies, said that an incoming Labour Government could do much to tackle the "pervasive" sense of economic insecurity which is damaging business optimism.

He insisted that the role of a Labour Government towards business was "not to command, but to facilitate" industry in key but limited areas.

These included advancing Britain's case in Europe, revolutionising education skills and training, promoting competition and breaking down monopolies, building up strong regions, increasing social cohesion and backing new technologies.

Mr Blair also highlighted prices, saying that any business plan is "virtually useless if you cannot plan ahead on the basis of stable prices".

He added: "That is why a Labour Government will take no risks with inflation and will reject short-term, quick-fix solutions. We will have an explicit target for low and stable inflation as well as a medium-term objective of raising the economy's productive potential."

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES		
FT-SE 100	3662.8	(-1.4)
Yield	3.92%	
FT-SE A All share	1788.24	(-1.80)
Nikkei	19067.86	(+188.33)
New York:		
Dow Jones	5187.21	(+9.76)*
S&P Composite	618.56	(+0.88)*
US RATE		
Federal Funds	5$^{13}/_{16}$%*	(5⅞%)
Long Bond	112$^{5}/_{32}$*	(111$^{19}/_{32}$)
Yield	5.99%*	(6.04%)
LONDON MONEY		
3-mth Interbank	6$^{19}/_{32}$%	(6¼%)
Liffe long gilt future (Dec)	111$^{3}/_{16}$	(110$^{23}/_{32}$)
STERLING		
New York:		
$	1.5412*	(1.5435)
London:		
$	1.5429	(1.5421)
DM	2.2272	(2.2150)
FFr	7.6615	(7.6620)
SFr	1.8044	(1.8016)
Yen	156.34	(156.43)
£ Index	82.9	(82.8)
DOLLAR		
London:		
DM	1.4446*	(1.4325)
FFr	4.9710*	(4.9520)
SFr	1.1696*	(1.1655)
Yen	101.34*	(101.27)
$ Index	93.8	(93.6)
Tokyo close Yen 101.30		
NORTH SEA OIL		
Brent 15-day (Feb)	$17.20	($17.15)
GOLD		
London close	$388.45	($386.75)

* denotes midday trading price

Car wars

Carmakers said that sales of new vehicles rose 13 per cent in November, but that the increase owes more to special discounts and marketing initiatives rather than a return of the "feel-good" factor. Car makers want an interest-rate cut to stave off what they expect to be a winter slump. Page 26

Traded Options

Technical problems at our supplier of London Traded Options prices have prevented publication of yesterday's closing prices. We apologise for repetition of the previous day's closing prices.

Bass sidesteps Ladbroke speculation

By Christine Buckley

Sir Ian Prosser, left, and Richard North, finance director

BASS, the hotels and pubs group, sidestepped mounting speculation that it was about to bid for Ladbroke, the leisure group which runs the betting chain of the same name.

Rumours have been growing in the City that Bass, which is the parent company of the Coral bookmaker chain and which is modestly geared at 23 per cent, is about to move on Ladbroke. But yesterday Sir Ian Prosser, chairman of the brewery group which announced a profits climb of 11 per cent to £599 million for the year ending September, said only that the company would consider expansion in any of its three divisions of branded drinks, hotels and leisure retailing.

Recently the group has been expanding its hotels interests and Ladbroke could be appealing for its ownership of the Hilton brand outside the US. Bass operates Holiday Inn which is heavily concentrated in the US.

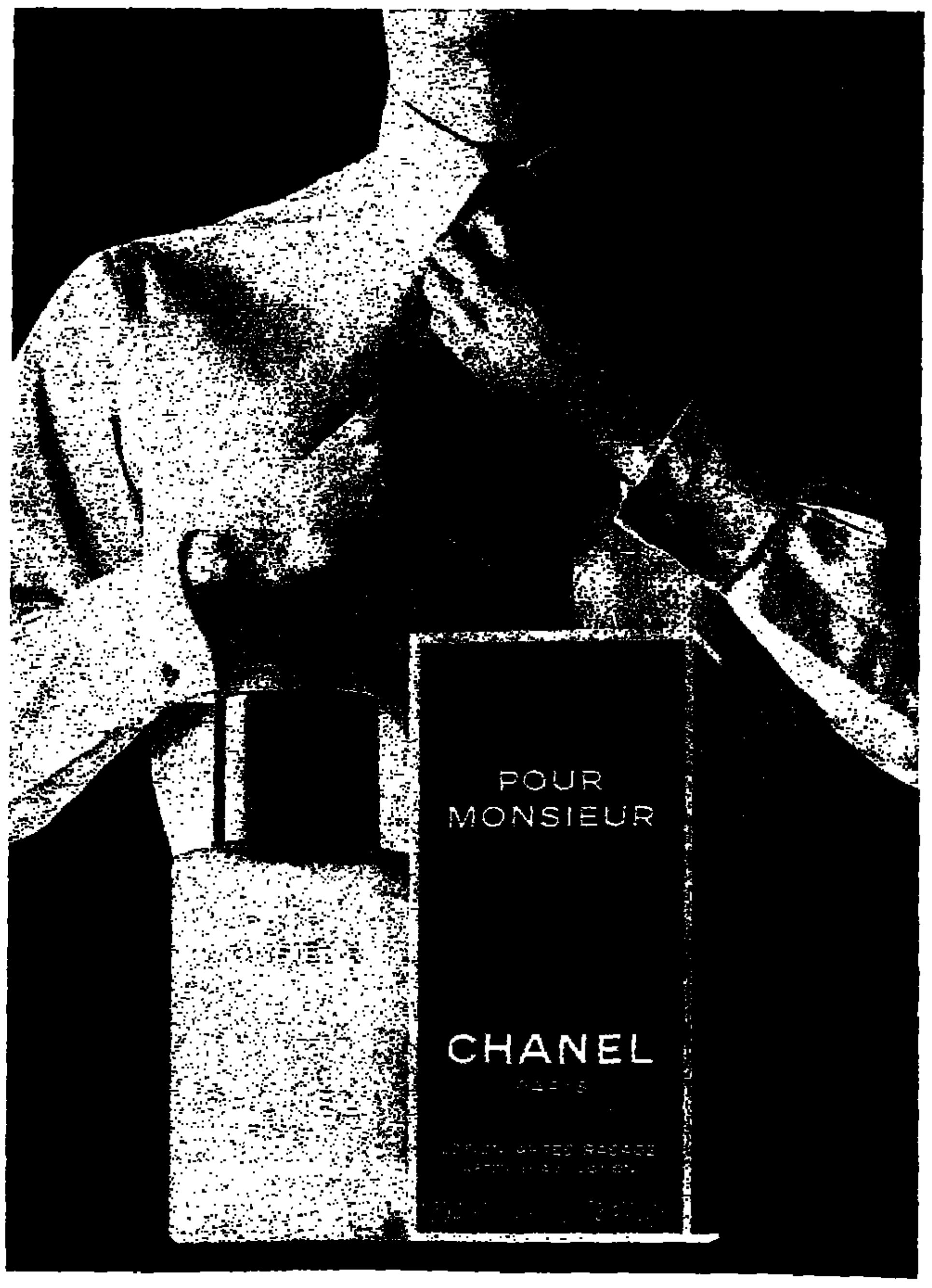
Hotels helped buoy the profits of Bass and compensated for poorer trading in its bingo and betting operations which have suffered because of the National Lottery. Sir Ian said: "Racing and bingo will still reflect the adverse effects of the National Lottery for the first half of the new financial year compared with the previous half."

Bass has tried to buck the flat trend of the drinks market with such brands as Caffrey's Irish Ale and the alcoholic lemonade Hooper's Hooch.

Overall, Bass's brewing division produced a rise in operating profits of 5.9 per cent to £144 million while sales slipped by just under 1 per cent to £1.5 billion.

The final dividend, which is payable February 12, was set at 15.6p which made for a rise of 7.6 per cent over the full year and takes the full payment to 22.7p.

Tempus, page 28



POUR MONSIEUR
ELEGANCE IS TIMELESS
CHANEL

Grant for failed firm queried

By Robert Miller

A LABOUR MP is today expected to call for a full-scale parliamentary debate on how the Department of Trade and Industry made an £850,000 regional grant to a failed West Country computer firm, without running a financial health check on the company's directors.

David Jamieson, Labour MP for Plymouth Devonport, is to receive answers to a series of parliamentary questions he tabled to ministers on why the DTI failed to run a credit check on John Dawson, a director of Rom Data of Falmouth, before handing over hundreds of thousands of pounds of taxpayers' money. He accused the DTI of using delaying tactics over what has become increasingly an embarassing issue.

Rom Data is now the subject of a joint formal investigation, code-named Operation Gale, by the Serious Fraud Office and Devon and Cornwall police.

Mr Dawson, a former Conservative city councillor in Bath, who is believed to be in Ireland, has a history of bad debts in Britain and the Caribbean. John Dawson Motor (Holdings) company crashed in the early 1980s with debts of more than £1 million.

Carmakers call for rate cut to avert slump

By Kevin Eason, motoring editor

CARMAKERS yesterday called for a quick cut in interest rates to stave off a winter slump in Britain's biggest manufacturing industry.

Registrations of new cars jumped by nearly 13 per cent in November, the second monthly increase in a row after a stumbling performance for much of the year.

But executives were quick to point out that the increase was the result of millions of pounds spent on discounting and special deals and little to do with a resurgence in the economy.

Ernie Thompson, chief executive at the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, said: "Although at first sight, these figures are encouraging, they result from aggressive marketing initiatives by individual manufacturers to stimulate demand rather than a sudden return of the 'feel-good factor' following the Budget."

Registrations of new cars in November reached 143,055, 12.8 per cent ahead of the 126,844 achieved in the same month of last year, according to the society's figures.

The big increase has done little to boost the total for the year so far though: sales in the first 11 months were 1,873,826, just 1.97 per cent better than the same period of last year.

Almost every manufacturer is offering discounts, free insurance or cheap finance just to keep models leaving the showrooms. Discounts of up to £800 on family cars are commonplace while there is evidence that some manufacturers are registering cars without having customers for them.

These cars are used as demonstrators, signed on to rental fleets at big discounts or used as management cars before being sold. The result is a glut of cars, depressing prices with the average fall on a model with a 1995 M-registration plate of £500, according to the Retail Motor Industry Federation.

Neil Marshall, the federation's director of economic affairs, said: "The reality is that this increase has been driven by launches of new models in the autumn and some very big deals. We are going into the winter with a stagnant market and that is a very serious position to be in.

"We need a cut in interest rates because that would help complete the package which would give us some chance of a revival."

Steve Willcox, left, and Hamish McPhie, finance director, saw a 23 per cent advance in profit

Avon Rubber in high gear

STEVE WILLCOX, chief executive of Avon Rubber, the automotive components to tyres group, is optimistic after improved margins and increased volumes helped the company to a 23 per cent advance in full-year profits.

Organic growth and acquisitions fuelled a pre-tax profits rise to £16.2 million in the year to September 30, as turnover jumped 13 per cent to £306.5 million. An increased final dividend of 12.35p (11.5p), payable on February 5, gives an improved 17.7p total (16.5p).

EU asked to resolve Anglo-Irish steel issue

From Eileen McCabe in Dublin

AFTER the failure of Irish and British officials to agree terms for the future operation of Ireland's only steel plant, the Dublin Government has called on the European Union to convene a special meeting of its Industry Council to resolve the issue.

The unprecedented move by the Irish Government follows months of negotiations over the future of its plan to sell the Irish Steel plant in Cork to ISPAT International, the Indian company. All other EU countries have approved the deal which would secure 350 jobs. Irish officials, frustrated at the intransigence of London, believe the EU route provides the only hope of securing the deal before the end of the year.

Clash of steel, page 29

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Total signs up first household for gas

COMPETITION by rival gas companies for domestic gas customers intensified yesterday after France's Total signed up its first household at a price that undercuts British Gas, claiming savings of up to 16 per cent. Total said it had signed a contract to supply gas to Liz Hodges in Exeter from April 1, 1996 at an estimated saving of £35 on her £300 a year British Gas bill. Total is one of a number of independent suppliers targeting gas users in the South West of England with a package for supply, maintenance and service. The newly competitive gas market is being piloted in the South West from April, and will eventually be extended nationwide.

Mark Petterson, managing director of Total, said domestic customers would save at least 10 per cent on current British Gas bills irrespective of the amount of gas used and method of payment. Average domestic customers would save up to 15.3 per cent, he said. Mr Petterson said 10,000 potential customers had registered an interest in receiving a service from Total.

Stagecoach £12.6m offer

STAGECOACH Holdings, the fast-growing public transport operator, is making a £12.6 million recommended offer for Cambus Holdings, which provides bus and coach services in Cambridge, Peterborough and Milton Keynes and operates coach tours in the UK and overseas. Cambus operates 370 coaches and buses. It earned pre-tax profits of £1.4 million in 1994 on sales of £22 million. Net assets were £5 million at the year end. Stagecoach hopes to benefit from purchasing economies in areas such as fuel, spare parts and insurance. The Stagecoach offer, backed by the board of Cambus, is worth £3.50 in cash for each Cambus share.

Cash-flow reform floated

THE Accounting Standards Board wants to reform its own rules on companies' cash-flow statements to bring them more in line with business practice. Proposals from Sir David Tweedie, ASB chairman, are published today as an exposure draft, FRED10. If accepted, they would replace the board's first compulsory standard, FRS1, introduced in 1991 on the basis of work down by the former Accounting Standards Committee. The suggested reform would make cash-flow statements simpler, allowing many details to be restricted to notes. It would focus on the net change in debt and companies would have to reconcile cash-flow statements with their balance sheet.

French pair questioned

TWO senior executives of Bouygues, the French building and communications group, are under investigation in a corruption inquiry. Patrick Leleu, managing director of the Bouygues-Telecom unit, and Philippe Renaud, the Bouygues group treasurer, were detained as part of inquiries into alleged false invoicing, a company spokeswoman said. M Leleu had already been detained and questioned by police on March 21 before being released without charge. Investigators are studying claims that firms in the Paris region used a software programme to make fake tender bids for building work to ensure that it went to a company agreed between builders.

Insurers pollution fear

FEARS over potential huge insurance claims from pollution incidents have led the Association of Insurance and Risk Managers (AIRMIC) to establish a taskforce to lobby the Government, trade associations, the new Environment Agency, the City and local authorities over pollution management. David Bull, AIRMIC chairman, told the association's annual dinner last night that a major seminar for the industry on environmental issues was planned for February. Mr Bull said: "We would like to set up meetings to see what can be done by the industry to ensure greener practices are adopted."

Wellman at the double

WELLMAN, the specialist engineer, more than doubled its pre-tax profits in the half year to September 30. This follows the company's reorganisation to accommodate the acquisitions made from FKI, a Halifax-based engineering group, in August 1994. Pre-tax profits of £4.1 million compared with £1.9 million previously. An interim dividend of 0.45p a share will be paid on February 10, up from 0.4p last year. Hugh Stewart, the newly appointed chairman, said: "New products launched during the year, as well as the group's entry into new markets, give me confidence for a continued improvement."

Trafalgar lease deal

TRAFALGAR HOUSE has negotiated a new 999-year lease with British Waterways for the Paddington Basin site in West London, freeing itself from an obligation to purchase the site at a cost of £22.5 million. Under the new terms, Trafalgar will have full management and development control of the site, paying an annual rental of £2.3 million fixed for the next 20 years and 5 per cent of sales or rental income. Until the site is developed, Trafalgar will also pay 50 per cent of excess net income over £1 million per year. It currently receives around £600,000 a year in rent from the site.

Celltech shares slip back

SHARES of Celltech, the biotechnology company, fell 21p to 579p yesterday after a bout of profit taking. The shares had risen 22p the day before in anticipation of the release of breakthrough clinical results in its year-end trading statement. None was released, but Celltech said it has made "substantial progress" in various so-called Phase 2 clinical studies, including treatments for asthma and Crohn's disease. The company reported a worse than expected operating loss of £7.1 million for the year to September 30 against a loss of £8.7 million the year before.

Top staff 'given most training'

By Philip Bassett

BRITAIN'S industrial training is failing those who most need it, according to a study published yesterday by a commission examining the future of British business.

The report, by the Commission on Public Policy and British Business, claims that training provision merely reinforces existing labour market and social inequalities.

It finds a "very clear pattern" that less skilled workers are much less likely to receive training than their more skilled counterparts, and that employees in so-called good jobs are likelier to receive training than those in more insecure employment.

For instance, 26 per cent of employees with a degree have received training recently, while only 4 per cent of those with no qualifications have done so. Similarly, 21 per cent of professional and managerial workers had been trained recently, but only 6 per cent of non-skilled manual workers.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.17	2.01
Austria Sch	16.57	15.07
Belgium Fr	48.48	44.18
Canada $	2.213	2.053
Cyprus Cyp£	0.742	0.687
Denmark Kr	9.18	8.38
Finland Mkk	7.16	6.51
France Fr	8.07	7.42
Germany Dm	2.37	2.16
Greece Dr	384.00	359.00
Hong Kong $	12.56	11.58
Ireland Pt	1.02	0.94
Israel Shk	5.1500	4.5000
Italy Lira	2572.00	2417.00
Japan Yen	170.80	154.80
Malta	0.592	0.537
Netherlds Gld	2.631	2.401
New Zealand $	2.52	2.30
Norway Kr	10.34	9.54
Portugal Esc	243.50	225.00
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.41
Spain Pta	196.00	183.00
Sweden Kr	10.69	9.89
Switzerland Fr	1.93	1.75
Turkey Lira	refer	81372.0
USA $	1.641	1.511

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank plc. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

Interest on a Business Cheque Account. Propose it at the next board meeting.

We'd like you to put TSB's full cheque account service to the vote.

First, let's go through what's proposed.

Cheque book? Check. Statements? Yes. Overdraft? Maybe. (That's subject to status.) You even get the added bonus of interest on your account.

The rate's tiered to grow as your balance grows.

And because we offer instant access, you can abstain from constantly switching funds between your accounts.

If that doesn't swing it, the competitive cost of our service just might.

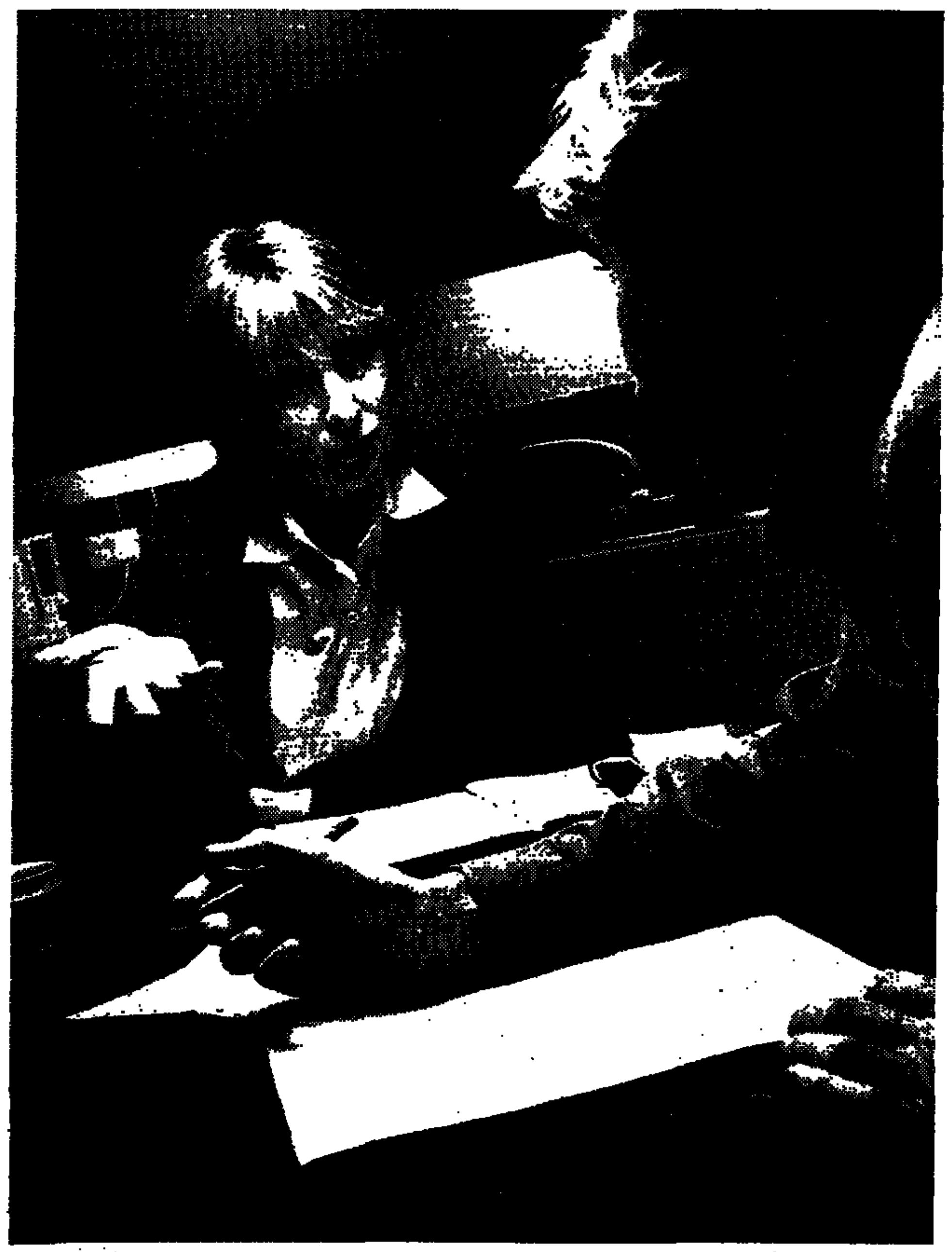
Right. All those in favour call 0345 668 668 (local rate) for an information pack or an appointment.

0345 668 668

Business Interest Cheque Account

TSB We want you to say YES

TSB Bank plc, Victoria House, Victoria Square, Birmingham B1 1BZ. TSB Bank Scotland plc, Henry Duncan House, 120 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 4LH.



GOLD FIELDS COAL LIMITED
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DECLARATION OF DIVIDEND

The company has declared a final dividend No. 165 of 90 cents per ordinary share in South African currency, payable to members registered in the books of the company at 12:00 on 29 December 1995.

Dividends will be electronically transferred to members' bank or building society accounts on 31 January 1996 or, where this method of payment has not been mandated, dividend warrants will be posted to members on 30 January 1996.

As South African non-resident shareholders' tax was abolished with effect from 1 October 1995, no deductions in this respect will henceforth be made from dividend payments.

Standard conditions relating to the payment of dividends are obtainable at the share transfer offices and the London Office of the company.

The register of members will be closed from 30 December 1995 to 5 January 1996, inclusive.

By order of the Board
per pro GOLD FIELDS CORPORATE SERVICES LIMITED
London Secretaries
S.J. Dunning, Secretary

Head Office:
75 Fox Street
Johannesburg 2001
Republic of South Africa

London Office and Office of
United Kingdom Registrar:
Greencoat House
Francis Street
London SW1P 1DH

A MEMBER OF THE GOLD FIELDS GROUP

6 December 1995

هكذا من ألاصل

هكذا من الاصل

☐ Auditors look at damage limitation ☐ *Which?* uncovers personal investment villains ☐ Why shares go up in December

Signing off the accountants

☐ FIRST Lloyd's, now Britain's top accountants. If those in the know were asked a decade ago to name anything safer and more lucrative than the Lloyd's insurance market, they might well have come up with a partnership in a big accountancy firm.

If yesterday's judgment stands, however, 150 partners in Binder Hamlyn, the leading second-line firm, will have to fork out £225,000 each to meet the loss from just one lawsuit. This is bad enough for those involved, even though Binder has since been taken over by Arthur Andersen and will survive. But it is not going to prove an isolated case. Top accountants face hundreds of big-ticket lawsuits over company losses or failures. And in many cases the main point of suing the accountants is that they are the only folk around with big money.

Price Waterhouse is still at the end of a $3 billion to $4 billion suit over BCCI, though it may be able to settle for a tenth of that. Ernst & Young partners have had judgment against them over a Lloyd's client, and may have to find the best part of £100 million to sweep auditors up in Lloyd's new global settlement with names.

This cannot go on. Accountants should be held accountable. They are worth suing, however, mainly because they are insured. In consequence, the Big Six are rapidly becoming uninsurable, even via their own pooled arrangements. That is why Binder Hamlyn partners would be left with up to a third of a £105 million bill. Already, the Big Six are thought to spend 8 per cent of their revenue on professional indemnity cover that is less comprehensive than smaller firms can obtain.

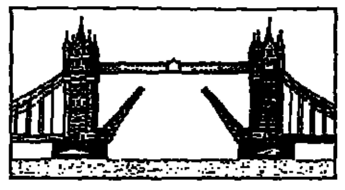
Costs are becoming uneconomic and individual partners exposed. Being a Big Six partner is no longer such an enticing prospect for young accountants who have more personal obligations than assets.

A change in the law, to end "joint and several" suits in favour of claims based on the accountant's proportionate blame for disaster, would do the trick. Such a measure has been launched tentatively in the US Congress, though not before one big firm went bust. In Britain, accountants lack the public sympathy to persuade politicians to back the change. Until that happens, they are on their own.

KPMG has opted to limit the damage by putting audits of big or potentially tricky clients into a separate limited liability company. But rivals do not think this device will stop determined lawyers getting at partners, and some have pension schemes that could not survive incorporation. Price Waterhouse is soon to unveil a different solution.

In America, where lawsuits cost even more, big firms eventually found a way to protect individual partners, if not their firms. They have been allowed to form limited liability partnerships in the helpful state of Delaware. As *Pennington* noted last month, UK firms need a Delaware lookalike on EU territory. They need to move now.

PENNINGTON



A cynical morass of mis-selling

☐ THE *Which?* report on investment advice is a disgrace to an already discredited profession, confirming what many had always suspected about the snake-oil peddlers who have wormed their way into that area.

The report is all the more impressive for being so understated. The Consumers' Association, more power to its elbow, sent undercover agents into a total of 48 advisers, purporting to seek guidance on simple investment problems.

The Association's conclusion is damning. "In too many cases," said *Which?*, "the desire to sell products that earn commission seemed to influence the advice more than our researchers' needs." To put it more bluntly, the advisers in whom the public still places some degree of trust were keener to flog whatever they had instructions from head office to sell that week than take into account the customers' true needs — needs that were in one case rather pressing.

One of the *Which?* researchers purported to be recently out of a job, with a fairly paltry £15,000 redundancy cheque. What he wanted was a safe haven for that money out of which to pay the rent and the grocery bills until a new job arrived.

What he got, from one so-called "adviser" out of every six he approached, was instructions to tie all his money up in unsuitable investments out of which they would have generated a fat commission.

This sort of mis-selling should be enough to have all four firms involved suspended by the relevant regulatory authority, the Personal Investment Authority — indeed, it looks not far short of fraud. It shows the transparent inadequacy of the billion-pound panoply of investor protection set up by the Financial Services Act, because so many of those surveyed failed to perform the most basic of their duties. One quarter did not reveal their status, whether independent or tied to a particular insurance company.

Reassuringly, independent financial advisers performed better than the rest — with one glaring exception. Much good will come of this. *Which?* has at last provided Colette Bowe, boss of the PIA, with ammunition for her new campaign to get tough with her industry.

Christmas cheer in the markets

☐ I AM indebted to David Schwartz's *Stock Market Handbook* for proving beyond doubt what most of us had suspected for years, which is that the City in December is all about Christmas parties and rigged markets.

Mr Schwartz has tabulated stock market performance every December since 1920 and proved that not only has the month been a steady money-maker, the level of profitability has been growing as the century progresses.

In Decembers 1940 to 1959 the stock market gained, on average, 1.13 per cent. Over the next two decades, the gain grew to 1.49 per cent, and, since 1980, it has averaged 2.08 per cent — equivalent to 70 points on the FT-SE.

There are even wide differences in profitability between the various weeks in December. The first week is the least profitable, with prices rising less than half the time. The third week is the second best, on average, of the entire year. The last week is generally the best performer of all, and good stock market conditions tend to last into February.

Even breaking down performance into individual days, three of the five best single days, on average, fall in December. Christmas Eve is the best, prices having risen in four years out of five. Sadly, the Exchange is closed on the 24th this year, but the 22nd looks a good bet.

Mr Schwartz holds back from giving reasons for this seasonal trend. But here is a modest theory. Could it have anything to do with fund managers' bonuses being based on a December-to-December comparison of the value of their portfolios?

Decanting the wine

☐ SOME bad news if you are called Henry and work for Grierson, the Forte wine shipper being bought by Matthew Clark. The latter carried out a typically ruthless clear-out job on Grants of St James's when it bought this some years ago. Clark found that the trick in cutting costs at such antediluvian, overstocked fine wine businesses is to drop three product lines in four — and fire anyone called Henry.

Carlton makes 30% more and plans to grow

By Eric Reguly

CARLTON Communications, the ITV company that owns Central Televison and the London weekday channel, is making plans to expand through overseas joint ventures and new satellite and cable channels in Britain and Continental Europe.

News of the company's move came as it reported a 30 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £246.7 million for the year to the end of September.

Carlton has no immediate expansion plans, but is expected to make move once the new TV ownership rules are put into place. Those rules, which now prevent an ITV company from owning more than two other TV companies, probably will be based on market share. With the TV market expanding with the launch of Channel 5 and non-terrestrial outlets, companies such as Carlton and Granada should be able to make acquisitions. Michael Green, chairman, said the ownership reform will offer Carlton "an opportunity to increase investment in production, to sell more television programmes and to create new channels".

Options include starting cable channels in Europe and a satellite channel in Britain that could, for example, be called Carlton Gold. The company would rather have control of the properties instead of forming partnerships. It will also continue to look in Asia. Recently, it bought a minority stake in Singapore's KTV, a 24-hour satellite service.

Carlton believes it has enough strength to feed programming to these new channels. It said it now spends £160 million a year on new programmes and has built up a 4,000-hour library. Broadcast TV accounts for nearly half of total operating profits, up from 7 per cent two years ago.

The company, unlike rival Granada, which has bid £3.3 billion for Forte, will not seek acquisitions outside the media business. A spokesman would not comment on speculation that it is interested in acquiring Express Newspapers from United News and Media.

Carlton's stronger profits were fuelled by a sharply higher earnings from the broadcast televison business. The division's operating profits were £122.8 million for the year, against £71.6 million the year before and only £8.3 million in 1993. All the other divisions reported gains, with the exception of video production and distribution, whose operating profits slipped to £60.7 million (£66.9 million).

Turnover rose 12 per cent to £1.6 billion, while earnings per share were 65.3p, up 21 per cent. The final dividend, to be paid on April 9, will be 14.3p, making 23.06p, up 14 per cent. Analysts are increasing their forecasts. Panmure Gordon expects pre-tax profits of £280 million in 1995-96, up from £267 million.

Tempus, page 28

Michael Green is expected to act after new TV ownership rules are put into place

Berisford keen to spend war chest

By Sarah Bagnall

BERISFORD, the kitchens, doors and food equipment group, is on the hunt for suitable acquisitions, having built up a sizeable war chest.

Berisford yesterday said it had net cash of £111.3 million as it revealed a sharp swing in fortunes from a loss of £3.2 million to a pre-tax profit of £26.9 million in the year to September 30.

John Sclater, chairman, said: "Our immediate task is to focus on growing our existing businesses but, using our strong cash position, we will seek appropriate acquisitions to supplement our product offering. We are not planning to make radical diversifications."

The company comprises Magnet, the joinery and windows business acquired in January 1994, and Welbilt Corporation, an American commercial food equipment manufacturer bought a year later.

The return to profit reflected a first-time contribution from Welbilt and an improved result from Magnet. Welbilt made £28.8 million operating profit on sales of £195.5 million, a result Mr Sclater said was "encouraging".

Magnet lifted profits from £6.2 million to £10.2 million on sales of £185.3 million, up from £102 million. Like-for-like sales rose 6 per cent.

Berisford is paying a 2p final payout, making a total for the year of 3p. The dividend, due January 24, is being paid out of earnings of 14p a share.

The company announced Dr Brian Smith has resigned as a non-executive director after his appointment as chairman of Cable and Wireless.

Vymura shares hit by profit warning

By Sarah Bagnall

THE stock market valuation of Vymura fell by a quarter yesterday when the furniture and furnishings group gave a surprise profit warning. The shares tumbled 35p, to 104p, close to their all-time low of 102p and below the May 1994 flotation price of 150p.

The company said that "profit before tax for the second half of the current year will be substantially below the level achieved in the first half". In September, Vymura announced a pre-tax profit of £1.8 million for the six months to June 30. At the time, the group said that sales in July and August were below budget but that a seasonal upturn in demand was expected.

The company blamed flat sales, a 20 per cent rise in raw material costs and a higher marketing and design spend, which was increased to try to stimulate sales.

The board currently intends to hold the final dividend at last year's 3.1p.

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NOTICE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Company will be held at The Grand Hotel, Esplanade, St. Helier, Jersey, Channel Islands at 10.30 a.m. on Friday, 29 December 1995 for the purpose of considering and, if thought fit, passing the following resolution which will be proposed as a special resolution:

SPECIAL RESOLUTION

That the name of the Company be changed to *London Pacific Group Limited.*

Dated 7 December 1995

By Order of the Board
C.A.C. Chaplin
Company Secretary

Registered Office:
Minden House
6 Minden Place
St Helier
Jersey JE2 4WQ
Channel Islands

Note:
Any member entitled to attend and vote at the Extraordinary General Meeting is entitled to appoint one or more proxies, who need not be members, to attend and, on a poll, to vote instead of him. Members submitting a proxy are not precluded from attending the meeting and voting if they wish to do so. In the case of a corporation, the proxy should be executed under its common seal or under the hand of some officer or attorney duly authorised in writing. A form of proxy is enclosed with the circular to be sent to shareholders of the Company, and in respect of the Extraordinary General Meeting should be signed and returned to the Company Secretary, Govett & Company Limited, Minden House, 6 Minden Place, St. Helier, Jersey JE2 4WQ, Channel Islands by not later than 10.30 a.m. on 27 December 1995.

Sony may sell US music and film group

From Richard Thomson in New York

SONY Corporation's US entertainments empire may be put up for sale following the surprise resignation of Michael Schulhof, architect of its disastrous foray into Hollywood and the only non-Japanese to sit on the board.

Mr Schulhof's departure under pressure from Tokyo followed massive losses and poor performance at Colombia Pictures and Sony Music. Investment bankers believe the subsidiaries could be worth between $8 and $10 billion. Matsushita, the other Japanese group to have tried to build a bridgehead in Hollywood, sold its MCA film studio to Seagram last year after suffering heavy losses.

Sony is moving management control of the entertainments businesses back to Japan, but analysts are sceptical that it can run them effectively from outside the US. Although it may appoint a new US head, analysts believe a partial or complete disposal of the businesses to concentrate on producing computer hardware is more probable.

Mr Schulhof, a physicist, joined Sony 21 years ago and became a protégé of Akio Morita, co-founder of the corporation. He became head of Sony's US operations six years ago, the only Westerner to achieve such prominence in a major Japanese corporation. He led the thrust into entertainments, spending $2 billion to buy CBS records — renamed Sony Music — in 1988, and $3.5 billion on Columbia and Tri-Star in 1989.

But Columbia ran into problems when Mr Schulhof brought in Peter Guber and Jon Peters at a cost of $800 million to buy out their independent production company. The studio produced a series of expensive flops despite a futher $1 billion investment.

The problems resulted in Sony taking a $2.7 billion write-down on the US entertainments businesses, leading to a $3.2 billion group loss in the third quarter of 1994.

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£25,000 - £249,999	5.38	5.25
£10,000 - £24,999	4.59	4.50
£2,500 - £9,999	4.07	4.00

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TIM08

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* Gross - paid without deduction of basic rate income tax to those who qualify. * C.A.R. (compounded annual rate) - the gross rate adjusted to show annual rate effectively received if interest remains in the account and itself earns interest. Rates shown correct at time of going to press - but subject to variation. Interest payable monthly.

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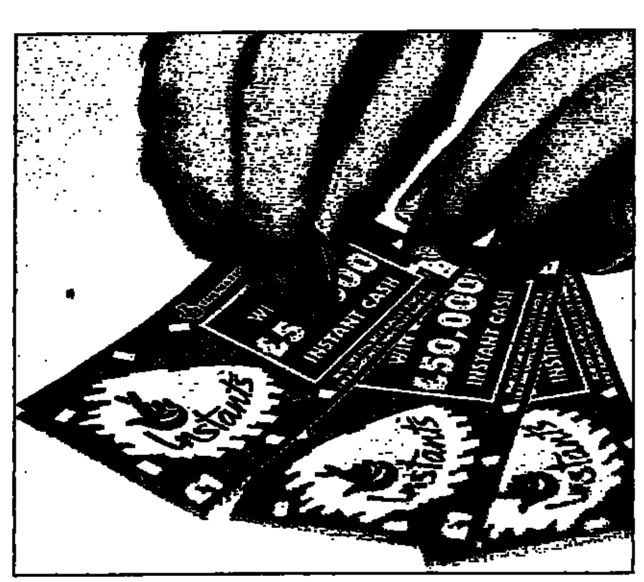
Leading companies lose their FT-SE 100 status



Rank rose 16p on better news despite lottery competition

IT WAS a day of mixed fortunes for some of Britain's leading companies after the London Stock Exchange steering committee met to decide which of them were to be removed from the constituents list of the FT-SE 100 index and who would replace them.

As expected, Inchcape was the first to go after a miserable few weeks that has seen its ranking in terms of capitalisation slump from 100 to 131. It will be replaced by the soon-to-be floated **National Grid**, ½p lighter at 209½p. **Inchape** greeted the news with a fall of 19p to 217p. Others losing their top 100 status include **Arjo Wiggins Appleton**, down 5p at 166p, **London Electricity**, 11p off at 915p, **De La Rue**, 5p easier at 655p, **Sears**, 1p harder at 98½p, and **Midlands Electricity**, up 18p at 983p.

They will be replaced by **Pilkington**, 3p easier at 193p, rated 87th, **Burton Group**, unchanged at 130p, (90th), **Smiths Industries**, up 4p at 613p, (91st), **Argos**, 9p better at 561p, (96th), and **Foreign & Colonial Investment Trust**, 1p firmer at 159½p, (97th).

Brokers say that it is not just the loss of status that affects companies shedding their FT-SE positions. They also lose the support of the tracking funds that have to invest in index constituents.

Elsewhere, share prices spent a lacklustre session failing to respond to another record breaking-run overnight on Wall Street. The disappointing response to the gilt auction and continued absence of any cut in interest rates have forced investors on the defensive.

In thin trading, the FT-SE 100 index lost an early lead to finish 1.4 down at 3,662.8, despite another positive start to trading in New York. A total of 704 million shares were traded in London.

BT remained a dull market but rallied to close 6p down at 352p, after briefly touching 344p. Once again regulatory worries are taking their toll on sentiment following publication on Monday by Oftel, the industry watchdog, of its consultation document regarding *price controls during* 1997.

Lehman Brothers, the broker, sees tough pricing controls remaining in place for years to come and warns that this will result in flat earnings and a potential threat to dividend growth over the next couple of years. It is urging clients to sell.

Kingfisher, the Woolworth, Comet and B&Q retailer, failed to benefit from its latest trading update. The shares lost 7p at 508p. Sales figures failed to impress brokers, who had hoped to see some benefit from recent rationalisation by Sir Geoff Mulcahy, chairman.

A confident trading update lifted **Rank Organisation** 16p to 425p. The group said 1996 was shaping up to be more favourable than at any time since 1990. Underlying results for the current year had been encouraging despite the impact of the National Lottery on its bingo operations, but margin growth in film and television, holiday and leisure had been offset by the downturn in bingo.

Williams Holdings, which recently gave a cautious view of prospects, jumped 7p to 321p after SBC Warburg turned positive for the first time in several years. It expects pre-tax profits to grow this time round from £210 million to £228 million.

Bass, the brewer, was rewarded with a rise of 27p to 696p after reporting full-year figures at the top end of expectations. Pre-tax profits were up 11 per cent at £599 million, despite the impact of the National Lottery scratchcards on its leisure division.

The group was underpinned by a strong performance from its hotel and pub operations, where it sees the potential for further growth. But it remains sceptical about prospects for its Coral betting and bingo businesses. Brokers have now increased their pre-tax profit estimates for the current year to between £660 million and £675 million.

Analysts have also been busily increasing their current year pre-tax profit forecasts for **Carlton Communications**. Last year Carlton raised profits from £190.2 million to £253.7 million. Estimates this time round range from £280 million to £300 million.

The main thrust to profits came from its involvement in independent television broadcasting. Increased competition from satellite and cable is likely to force the group to look abroad in search of future growth. Carlton shares firmed 3p to £10.03.

There was no shortage of talking points among the hi-tec companies. **Acorn Computer Group** advanced a further 10p to 202p, excited by talk of a possible link-up with Oracle.

But **Psion** dropped 70p to 765p following the launch by Hewlett-Packard of a new hand-held computer. Earlier this week NatWest Securities ceased to make a market in Psion shares.

Wilmington Group made a healthy market debut, with shares in the business-to-business publishing company ending their first day's trading at 61p, giving an 11p premium over a 50p placing price.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** A strong pound and overnight gains among US Treasury bonds set the tone for a buoyant session.

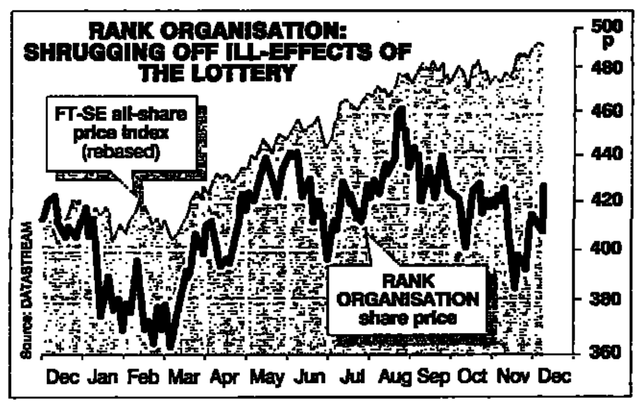
The market shrugged off the lukewarm response to the latest £3 billion auction by the Bank of England, which was just 1.12 times covered, to finish near their best of the day.

In the futures pit, the December series of the Long Gilt surged £²⁹⁄₃₂ to £111¹⁄₁₆ in heavy trading that saw 102,000 contracts completed.

The best gains were seen at the long end, where Treasury 8¾ per cent 2017 climbed £1⁹⁄₃₂ to £111⅞, while at the shorter end Treasury 9 per cent 1999 closed £⁷⁄₃₂ better at £98¹⁄₃₂.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Leading *indicators encouraged hopes of* an early reduction in interest rates, sending bonds higher and leading to firm gains in shares on Wall Street. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 9.76 points higher at 5,187.21.

There was a sigh of relief at Ladbroke after it emerged that full-year figures from Bass did not contain a bid. Even so, Section 212 disclosure notices are being fired off rapidly by Ladbroke. The company needs to raise money for deals and property sales may be the way forward. The shares rose 2½p to 160p.



Source: DATASTREAM

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):

Dow Jones	5187.21 (+9.76)
S&P Composite	618.56 (+0.88)

Tokyo:

Nikkei Average	19067.86 (+188.33)

Hong Kong:

Hang Seng	9898.89 (-76.48)

Amsterdam:

EOE Index	481.98 (+0.12)

Sydney:

AO	2198.6 (-4.7)

Frankfurt:

DAX	2267.18 (+6.19)

Singapore:

Straits	2154.43 (-14.05)

Brussels:

General	8086.53 (-18.52)

Paris:

CAC-40	1834.75 (+19.88)

Zurich:

SKA Gen	702.70 (-2.40)

London:

FT 30	2648.4 (-2.7)
FT 100	3662.8 (-1.4)
FT-SE Mid 250	3959.9 (-9.4)
FT-SE-A 350	1814.3 (-1.5)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1464.49 (+11.52)
FT A All-Share	1788.24 (-1.60)
FT Non Financials	1880.94 (-0.01)
FT Fixed Interest	114.49 (+0.43)
FT Govt Secs	96.22 (+0.53)
Bargains	28401
SEAQ Volume	704.6m
USM (Datastrm)	191.21 (-0.28)
US$	1.5407 (+0.0004)
German Mark	2.2217 (+0.0095)
Exchange Index	82.9 (+0.1)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.1802
£:SDR	1.0351
RPI	149.8 Oct (3.2%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	148.7 Oct (2.9%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Abtrust Hi Inc (100)	98	...
Arlon Props	9	...
BZW Equit Tes (306)	300	- 2
Benfield & Rea	103	...
CMG (290)	346	...
Cash Converters Intl	28	...
Celebrated Group	19	...
Cortworth (150)	152	- 3
Cox Insurance	110	...
East Surrey NV.	448	...
Finsbury Tech (100)	100	...
Flomerics	205	...
Gardner (L)	141	- 2
Jasmin	95	...
London Town	80	...
Martin Currie Jp	94	...
Martin Currie Jp Wts	31	...
Megalomedia	94	+ 11
Peptide (200)	240	...
Revelation Picca	100	...
Schroder Asia Pc	100½	+ 1
Trocadero	45	...
Vero Group	263	- 1
Wilmington	61	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Allied Leis n/p (34)	7	...
Cordiant n/p (60)	23	- 4
Frprt Leis n/p (100)	10	- 2
Mayborn n/p (210)	43	...
Pilkington n/p (155)	39	- 2
Roxspur n/p (3)	¼	...
TBI n/p (50)	3	...
The Tele Crp n/p (97)	6	- 1

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Cliff Resources	92p (+14p)
Berisford Int	190p (+17p)
Alba	268p (+15p)
Acorn Comp	202p (+10p)
BTP	271p (+12p)

FALLS:

Psion	765p (-70p)
Inchcape	217p (-19p)
Phonelink	215p (-14p)
Celltech	579p (-21p)
Chubb Sec	314p (-11p)
Avon Rubber	505p (-15p)
Powell Duffryn	444p (-13p)

Closing Prices Page 31

TEMPUS

Lengthening bid odds

BASS must be feeling rather smug as it surveys its hotel and drinks empire. All around is chaos: downmarket caterers exchange insults in the lobbies of plush hotels and the world of racing has come a cropper because newsagents are selling scratch cards.

Amid all the *Sturm und Drang* Bass has produced some impressive results; its hotels and pubs managed double-digit profits growth and even its brewers produced a respectable increase of 6 per cent. The company generated £148 million of net cash-flow before acquisitions last year and gearing is only 23 per cent. It is hardly surprising the market is convinced it is about to launch a bid.

Yesterday the racing papers were convinced that Bass was about to take little Coral into the big league with a bid for Ladbroke and the latter's share price has bounded ahead after the November profit warning. However, suspicion of racing tips is not the only reason to be sceptical. Bass could probably do a better job with Ladbroke's 1,900 betting shops but a bid for Ladbroke would be horrendously expensive. The Hilton hotels alone could fetch £2.5 billion on a bid valuation and the betting shops might be worth £800 million on the same basis.

Ladbroke is currently capitalised at £1.9 billion, suggesting the market is not entirely convinced of the imminence of the Bass bid. The brewer has plenty of firepower but the logic of owning two competing hotel franchises, Holiday Inn and Hilton, is dubious. If there is a bidder for Ladbroke out there, it is more likely to be a leveraged buyout specialist and in such a scenario, Bass might find opportunities to buy more betting shops.

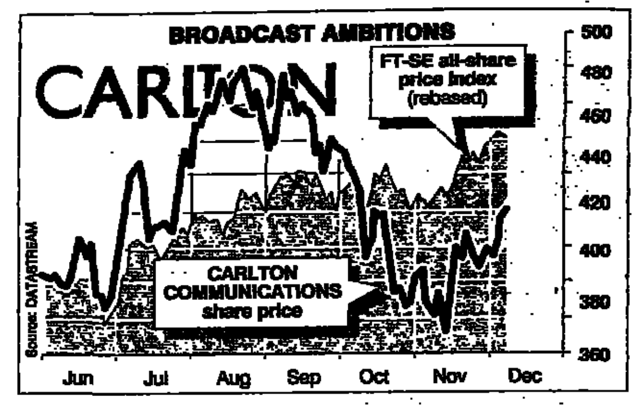
Carlton

WITH good profits behind him and cash in the bank, Michael Green, Carlton's chairman, will be chomping at the bit. Few doubt that the company will make a large acquisition next year and arch rival Granada's £3.3 billion bid for Forte will only fuel ambitions at Carlton.

Big egos backed by big money can be deadly combinations and the merits of Granada's sudden love affair with the budget hotel business, for example, are not immediately clear. Inspired by Granada's *attempt* to prove that conglomerates are not yesterday's fashion, will Carlton buy pubs, bingo clubs or car dealerships?

Such moves are unlikely. Carlton insists it will stick to media. Of course, media ecompasses everything from the internet to newspapers and a bid for the ailing Express group should not be ruled out.

However, Carlton's boss is more conservative than his counterpart at Granada and diversification is unlikely to appear as attractive. Building on its strength as a programming factory is more likely. Carlton is now the largest supplier of programmes to ITV, accounting for some 27 per cent of its schedule, and securing more outlets for its shows makes perfect sense. Investment in satellite with a Carlton Gold channel might be one option, though that market is already crowded. Better still, would be the pursuit of the European satellite or cable market.



Source: DATASTREAM

Berisford

IF THE British homeowner is not buying kitchen units, the same cannot be said for McDonald's and Burger King. A snapshot picture of Berisford's business shows Magnet, the building materials division, struggling to keep margins above water.

However, Welbilt, which supplies the fast food business with fryers and pizza ovens, is generating double-digit profits growth as the American hamburger moguls push their products across the globe.

The strategy is to build on existing relationships and sell more products; Welbilt sells cooking equipment but would also like to supply commercial dishwashers and cold storage units. The industry *is fragmented* and Berisford hopes to pick up specialist businesses with a view to supplying a full range of products to its clients.

With £100 million in the bank, Berisford has the cash to expand Welbilt and Magnet. The latter is looking less healthy but Berisford is managing to grow sales, and raw material price increases, which hurt margins last year, are now easing.

The industry is in dire need of consolidation and, unlike some of its rivals, Berisford has the balance sheet to make a useful contribution. On its current rating the company looks attractive; even assuming no contribution from Magnet in the current year, the shares are probably on a discount to the market and if housing transactions were to pick up in January, the shares could prove cheaper still.

NFC

IT IS difficult to see the way *out at NFC. It still managed* to fall short of some analysts' forecasts after almost two years of falling expectations. The NFC board has now shed its links with the past, boasting a new chairman, chief executive and finance director.

Unfortunately, what is required to transform the business is a new market, an option not available to the company, which is still suffering from cut-throat competition in UK logistics and moving services.

In the circumstances, the company's decision to maintain the dividend looks brave, especially after the heavy capital investment during the year, which has taken gearing from almost nil to 30 per cent.

NFC has already told investors that it expects to achieve acceptable dividend cover — two times — in two to three years. That implies profits of about £150 million, a target that looks distant after yesterday's results.

Even after the anticipated *cost reductions from lay-offs* and restructuring, NFC will be adrift of its dividend cover ambition and there is no sign yet of easier times.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Dec	900-880	Mar	1009-1007
Mar	933-931	May	1020-1018
May	952-951	Jul	unq
Jul	970-969	Sep	--
Sep	988-987		
Dec	1000-998		Volume: 2318

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Jan	1987-1985	Sep	1725-1715
Mar	1868-1867	Nov	1710-1680
May	1800-1795	Jan	1700-1670
Jul	1760-1755		Volume: 3853

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Oct	303.0-02.0
Spot: 388.8		Dec	296.5-95.1
Mar	351.5-50.8	Mar	294.9-93.1
May	341.0-40.5	May	296.4-94.2
Aug	331.0-30.5		Volume: 458

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on December 5

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	103.53	119.07	121.50
(+/-)	+1.25	+3.97	-0.43
Eng/Wales:	103.98	119.73	119.52
(+/-)	+1.40	+4.63	-0.39
(%)	+26.0	+21.0	-10.0
Scotland:	97.77	116.14	127.54
(+/-)	-0.79	+1.02	-2.49
(%)	+20.0	+1.0	+18.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	17.60	+0.05
Brent 15 day (Jan)	17.60	+0.05
Brent 15 day (Feb)	17.20	+0.05
W Texas Intermediate (Jan)	18.75	+0.05
W Texas Intermediate (Feb)	18.40	+0.05

PRODUCTS ($/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas .15	B: 170 (-1)	O: 172 (-1)
Gasoil EEC	170 (+2)	171 (+2)
Non EEC 1H Jan	168 (n/c)	169 (n/c)
Non EEC 1H Feb	164 (n/c)	165 (n/c)
3.5 Fuel Oil	98 (+2)	100 (+3)
Naphtha	155 (+1)	157 (+1)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Dec	163.25-63.50	Mar	158.25-58.50
Jan	163.75-64.00	Apr	156.00-56.25
Feb	161.25-61.50		Vol: 16252

BRENT (6.00pm)

Jan	17.56-17.58	Apr	16.74-16.77
Feb	17.20-17.23	May	16.58-16.62
Mar	16.95 BID		Vol: 28643

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Jan	127.25	Jan	116.00
Mar	129.00	Mar	118.00
May	130.85	May	120.50
Jul	132.75	Sep	110.50
Sep	115.30	Nov	112.50
Volume: 439		Volume: 51	

POTATO (£/t)	Open	Close
Mar	unq	270.0
Apr	267.5	268.0
May	unq	300.0
		Volume: 53

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)
Jan 111.75-112.25

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Dec 95	1585	1565	1585
Jan 96	1540	1515	1540
Feb 96	1520	1502	1539
Apr 96	1530	1515	1530
Vol: 304 lots		Open interest: 3882	

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LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day)			Rudolf Wolff
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	Cash: 2968.0-2970.0	3mth: 2695.0-2696.0	Vol: 1468850
Lead ($/tonne)	748.00-749.00	726.00-727.00	202750
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1013.5-1014.0	1040.0-1041.0	424225
Tin ($/tonne)	6345.0-6250.0	6280.0-6285.0	30575
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1629.0-1630.0	1668.0-1669.0	1030025
Nickel ($/tonne)	7950.0-7955.0	8075.0-8078.0	69738

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
Alld Dom.	460	35½	49	53½	3	8	13½
(*489)	500	10½	24	30½	17	24	32
Argyll	300	19½	29	33	5	9½	15
(*317)	330	5	14	18	19	24½	30½
ASDA	100	8	11½	15	3½	6½	6½
(*104)	110	3½	7	10½	9	11½	11½
Boots	550	33	48½	56	4½	10	18
(*575)	600	7	20½	28½	29	34½	42
Br Airways	460	26	39½	47	5½	11½	18½
(*477)	500	6	18½	26	25½	31½	38½
BP	500	26	35½	43½	5	11½	16½
(*518½)	550	4	11½	18½	33	38	42
Br Steel	160	9½	15	18	3½	6	10
(*165½)	180	1½	5½	8½	15½	17	22
C & W	460	20	36	43½	16	22½	29
(*460)	500	7	20	27½	42	46½	52
CU	600	48½	61	67½	5	17½	22
(*639½)	650	16½	31½	40½	22½	42	46
ICI	750	38	51	63½	9	25½	31
(*774½)	800	11½	25	38½	33	52½	58
Kingfishr.	500	27	40½	45½	7½	20½	28
(*515)	550	5	17	22½	38	49½	56
Land Sec.	550	55	66½	73	0½	3½	9½
(*599½)	600	15	30	37½	10½	17½	28½
M & S	420	23	35	40½	4	8	14
(*437)	460	4½	14	19½	25	28	33½
Nat West	650	35	47	59½	9½	26½	35
(*671)	700	11	22	36½	34½	55	62½
Sainsbury	360	30½	39½	45	1½	5½	9½
(*386)	390	10½	21	27	11	16	22½
Shell	800	26½	41	49	7	21	25
(*814)	850	4½	15½	24½	36½	49½	53
Smkl Bch.	700	23	40½	55	16	28	33
(*702½)	750	6	18½	32½	49½	58	62
Storehse	330	21½	30½	37½	5	9½	14
(*347½)	360	8	15	22	19½	24½	28½
Trafalgar	25	5	7	9	2½	4	5½
(*27)	30	3	5	7½	5½	7	8½
Unilever.	1300	48	73	87½	9½	27	33½
(*1332)	1350	19	42½	59½	30½	50½	57
Zeneca	1300	63½	95	121	20½	52	64
(*1332½)	1350	35	67½	94	42½	76	88

	Series	Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
Grnd Met.	420	28	37½	46½	13	16½	22½
(*440½)	460	9½	19	27½	36	38½	44
Ladbroke	140	22	25	29½	5	7	10
(*157)	160	12½	14	19½	12	17	19½
Utd Bisc	240	25½	30	33	4½	9	11½
(*258)	260	13½	19	22	12	18½	21

December 5, 1995 Tot: 14684 Call: 9738 Put: 4946 FT-SE Call: 2771 Put: 1403
*Underlying security price.

	Series	Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
BAA	460	34	45	52½	2½	7	12
(*488)	500	7½	20½	29	17½	23	28½
Thames W	550	25½	43	50½	10	17	31
(*561½)	600	6½	21	27	40	45	59½

	Series	Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
BAT Ind	550	32½	40	47½	13½	26½	35
(*561)	600	12	18	27	44	57½	64½
BTR	300	27	30	33½	2½	7½	9½
(*320½)	330	9½	12½	17½	14	22	24
Br Aero	800	41½	57	76	30½	43	52
(*800)	850	20½	36½	53	60½	72	79½
Br Telcm	330	31½	36	43	3	6	11
(*358½)	360	12½	18½	25½	16	18½	24½
Cadbury	500	59½	64	73½	6	15½	19½
(*547)	550	26	33½	45	23	35½	40½
Guinness	420	40½	46	51½	5	10	13
(*451½)	460	15	21	28½	18	28	31
GEC	300	14½	21	25½	8	10½	15½
(*305½)	330	3	8½	12½	28	29½	33½
Hanson	180	9½	12	14½	6	8½	11
(*186)	191	4½	—	—	13	—	—
LASMO	160	14½	18	23	4½	7	9
(*168)	180	5	9	13½	15	17	19½
Lucas	180	10½	14½	18½	7	10	12½
(*180½)	200	3½	6½	10	20½	22½	24
Pilkingtn	191	14½	19	23	6	7½	11½
(*196)	210	6½	10	14	17½	17½	22
Prudential	420	29	35	41½	12	21½	24½
(*431)	460	11½	18	23½	33½	44	47
Redland	360	24	33	36½	9½	18	21
(*370)	390	10½	18	22	26	35	37½
R-Royce	160	21	23½	27½	2	5	6½
(*177)	180	8	11½	16	9	14	15½
Tesco	280	24½	29½	32½	5	8½	11½
(*296)	300	12½	18½	21	12½	18	20½
Vodafone	220	16½	23	28	7½	11½	13½
(*225½)	240	7½	13½	18½	18½	22	24
Williams	300	21	26½	29	3½	9½	11½
(*313½)	330	5½	10½	13½	18½	26	27½

FT-SE INDEX (*3664½)

	3550	3600	3650	3700	3750	3800
Calls						
Dec	129	82	41	15½	3½	1
Jan	150½	113½	79	52	31½	17
Feb	174	136	105	77	55	38
Mar	191½	156½	125	98	73½	54
Jun	—	198½	—	143	—	95½
Puts						
Dec	2	5½	16½	41	85½	135½
Jan	21	33½	49½	72½	104	143
Feb	32	43½	63	86½	116	152
Mar	47½	63	81½	105	132	165
Jun	—	106½	—	149½	—	203½

	Series	Calls Dec	Mar	Jun	Puts Dec	Mar	Jun
Abby Nat.	600	45½	62½	69	1	15½	23½
(*642½)	650	10½	31½	40½	15½	38½	47
Amstrad	260	6	17½	24½	5	13	16½
(*261)	280	0½	9	16	19½	24½	27½
Barclays	750	47	67	75½	1½	17½	25½
(*794)	800	10½	36	47	16	40	48½
Blue Circ	330	9	23	27½	5	14	21½
(*333½)	360	0½	9½	14	26½	31½	39½
Br Gas	220	17½	25	28½	0½	5	8½
(*236)	240	4	13½	17	7	13	18
Dixons	390	24	38½	47½	1½	12	15½
(*411)	420	6	23	31½	13	25	29½
Forte	330	12½	22½	26½	3	11	15½
(*338)	360	1½	9	13	22½	26½	32
Tarmac	90	5½	10½	12½	1	4½	7½
(*94)	100	1	5½	7½	6½	10	13
Hillsdwn	140	13½	17½	18½	0	2½	6½
(*153)	160	1½	5½	7½	7½	11	17
Lonrho	160	18	21½	25	0	3	5
(*177)	180	3½	10	14	5½	12	14
Sears	90	8	10½	12½	0	1½	3
(*97½)	100	1	4½	7	3½	5½	8
Thrn Emi	1500	110	139	178	1	19	39
(*1605)	1600	28	78	116	20	56	65
Tomkins	260	8½	16½	23	2½	10	12½
(*265)	280	1	7½	13½	15	21	23½
TSB	390	28	34	37½	1	17	20
(*416)	420	6½	12½	18½	10½	31	34½

	Series	Jan	Apr	Jul	Jan	Apr	Jul
Glaxo	850	61½	78½	91	7	21½	30
(*899½)	900	29	46½	63	22	42½	52
HSBC	950	64½	89	106	12	35	47
(*997)	1000	34	60	78½	29½	58	70
Reuter	600	36	52	66	9	21½	28
(*623)	650	11½	26½	41	34	46½	53

	Series	Jan	Apr	Jul	Jan	Apr	Jul
Royal Ins.	390	18½	29½	36	11	26½	32½
(*391½)	420	7	17	24	30½	45½	51

	Series	Dec	Mar	Jun	Dec	Mar	Jun
Fisons	260	4½	5½	5½	0½	0½	0½
(*264)	280	0	0	0	16	16	18

	Series	Feb	May		Feb	May	
Eastern Gp	950	27	26	—	0½	1	—
(*974)	1000	0½	0½	—	33½	34	—

	Series	Dec	Mar	Jun	Dec	Mar	Jun
Natl Pwr	460	9	26½	37	7	16½	26
(*460½)	500	0½	11½	20	39½	42	50½
Scot Pwr	360	12	19½	28½	3	13	15
(*368)	390	1	7½	14½	22	30½	32

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100	Dec 95	3683.0	3686.0	3652.0	3672.5	10708
Previous open interest: 78031	Mar 96	3706.0	3708.0	3677.5	3696.0	2786
FT-SE 250	Dec 95	3950.0	3950.0	3950.0	3950.0	1060
Previous open interest: 3517	Mar 96	4000.0	4000.0	4000.0	4000.0	1060
Three Month Sterling	Dec 95	93.53	93.57	93.53	93.56	8445
Previous open interest: 400593	Mar 96	93.81	93.87	93.80	93.87	16955
	Jun 96	93.94	94.00	93.93	93.99	10134
Three Mth Eurodollar	Dec 95				94.30	0
Previous open interest: 110	Mar 96				94.73	0
Three Mth Euro DM	Dec 95	96.06	96.07	96.05	96.06	12779
Previous open interest: 939667	Mar 96	96.33	96.34	96.32	96.34	22794
Long Gilt	Dec 95	110-17	111-17	110-17	111-18	8857
Previous open interest: 142221	Mar 96	109-31	111-02	109-28	111-02	108882
Japanese Govmt Bond	Dec 95	122.60	122.63	122.55	122.60	599
	Mar 96	121.40	121.49	121.33	121.49	2302
German Gov Bd Bund	Dec 95	99.45	99.74	99.38	99.70	19333
Previous open interest: 221525	Mar 96	98.78	99.16	98.69	99.09	164823
Three month ECU	Dec 95	94.51	94.59	94.51	94.58	1147
Previous open interest: 21381	Mar 96	94.80	94.84	94.80	94.83	843
Euro Swiss Franc	Dec 95	97.80	97.85	97.78	97.83	3189
Previous open interest: 55358	Mar 96	98.05	98.11	98.00	98.08	6004
Italian Govmt Bond	Mar 96	104.05	106.24	104.01	106.20	59471
Previous open interest: 41905	Jun 96	105.60	105.60	105.60	105.70	28

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6¾ Finance Hse 7
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 6¾ Low 6½ Week fixed: 6⅝
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6⁷⁄₁₆ ; 3 mth 6⁵⁄₁₆ . Sell: 2 mth 6¹¹⁄₃₂ ; 3 mth: 6¼ .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	6⅝-6⁹⁄₁₆	6¹⁹⁄₃₂-6¹⁷⁄₃₂	6¹⁵⁄₃₂-6¹³⁄₃₂	6¼-6³⁄₁₆	.
Sterling Money Rates:	6²¹⁄₃₂-6¹⁹⁄₃₂	6⅝-6½	6½-6⁷⁄₁₆	6⅜-6⁵⁄₁₆	6⁵⁄₁₆-6¼
Interbank:	6²¹⁄₃₂-6¹⁹⁄₃₂	6⁹⁄₁₆-6½	6½-6⁷⁄₁₆	6⅜-6⁵⁄₁₆	6⁵⁄₁₆-6¼

Overnight: open 6⅝, close 6½ .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Local Authority Deps:	6⁹⁄₁₆	n/a	6⁷⁄₁₆	6⁵⁄₁₆	6¼
Sterling CDs:	6⅝-6⁹⁄₁₆	6¹⁷⁄₃₂-6¹⁵⁄₃₂	6¹⁵⁄₃₂-6¹³⁄₃₂	6⁵⁄₁₆-6¼	6¼-6³⁄₁₆
Dollar CDs:	5.83	n/a	5.63	5.42	5.41
Building Society CDs:	6²¹⁄₃₂-6¹⁹⁄₃₂	6⁹⁄₁₆-6½	6½-6⁷⁄₁₆	6¹¹⁄₃₂-6⁹⁄₃₂	6⁹⁄₃₂-6⁷⁄₃₂

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5²³⁄₃₂-5⅝	5²³⁄₃₂-⁵¹¹⁄₁₆	5²¹⁄₃₂-5⁹⁄₁₆	5⅝-5½	5½-4½
Deutschemark:	4⅛-3⅞	4³⁄₁₆-4¹⁄₁₆	3³¹⁄₃₂-³¹⁵⁄₁₆	3⅞-3¾	4⅛-3½
French Franc:	5⅞-5½	6¼-5⅞	6⅛-5⅞	6⅛-5⅞	5⅞-4⅞
Swiss Franc:	2½-2⅛	2⅜-2¼	2¼-2⅛	2⅛-2	2⅛-1½
Yen:	½-⅜	⁷⁄₁₆-⁵⁄₁₆	⁷⁄₁₆-⁵⁄₁₆	½-⅜	n/a

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $387.20-387.50 Close: $388.20-388.70 High: $388.90-389.40
Low: $386.05-386.55 AM: $387.60 PM: $388.40

Krugerrand: $388.50-390.50 (£251.75-253.75)

Platinum: $414.20 (£268.70) Silver: $5.28 (£3.425) Palladium: $133.15 (£86.40)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Dec 6	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.4734-2.4967	2.4934-2.4967	⅝-½pr	1⅝-1½pr
Brussels	45.40-45.87	45.77-45.87	12-9pr	31-26pr
Copenhagen	8.5480-8.6410	8.6190-8.6410	1⅛-⅞pr	3⅛-2½pr
Dublin	0.9652-0.9708	0.9682-0.9708	10-7pr	24-19pr
Frankfurt	2.2086-2.2287	2.2256-2.2287	⅝-½pr	1⅝-1½pr
Lisbon	232.11-234.54	233.90-234.54	32-58ds	122-164ds
Madrid	188.70-189.95	189.65-189.95	44-52ds	137-153ds
Milan	2453.8-2463.6	2457.1-2461.3	7-9ds	24-26ds
Montreal	2.0994-2.1083	2.1053-2.1083	0.16-0.07pr	0.28-0.15pr
New York	1.5396-1.5442	1.5424-1.5434	0.10-0.08pr	0.27-0.24pr
Oslo	9.7280-9.8230	9.8080-9.8230	1⅛-⅞pr	3⅛-2⅞pr
Paris	7.6340-7.6760	7.6550-7.6680	⅝-⅜pr	1-⅞pr
Stockholm	10.085-10.149	10.126-10.149	⅛-⅜ds	⅝-⅞ds
Tokyo	155.96-156.51	156.21-156.47	1-⅞pr	2⅛-2⅞pr
Vienna	15.530-15.681	15.654-15.681	⅝-⅜pr	1-⅞pr
Zurich	1.7959-1.8058	1.8030-1.8058	⅞-⅝pr	2-1⅞pr

Source: Extel *Premium - pr. Discount - ds.*

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3508-1.3517
Austria	10.15-10.16
Belgium (Com)	29.63-29.67
Canada	1.3654-1.3659
Denmark	5.5820-5.5850
France	4.9677-4.9687
Germany	1.4425-1.4432
Hong Kong	7.7348-7.7358
Ireland	1.5925-1.5945
Italy	1592.60-1594.10
Japan	101.35-101.40
Malaysia	2.5392-2.5397
Netherlands	1.6149-1.6154
Norway	6.3558-6.3578
Portugal	151.64-151.74
Singapore	1.4132-1.4142
Spain	122.93-123.05
Sweden	6.5612-6.5687
Switzerland	1.1685-1.1695

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.5410-1.5436
Australia dollar	2.0813-2.0841
Bahrain dinar	0.5755-0.5875
Brazil real*	1.4886-1.4927
China yuan	12.00 Buy
Cyprus pound	0.696-0.706
Finland markka	6.535-6.651
Greece drachma	360.75-367.75
Hong Kong dollar	11.9162-11.9255
India rupee	53.29-54.25
Indonesia rupiah	3491.0-3559.6
Kuwait dinar KD	0.457-0.467
Malaysia ringgit	3.9119-3.9160
New Zealand dollar	2.3791-2.3824
Pakistan rupee	52.63 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.555-5.679
Singapore dollar	2.1768-2.1797
S Africa rand (com)	5.610-5.712
U A E dirham	5.6025-5.7265

Barclays Bank GTS • Lloyds Bank

FT-SE VOLUMES

3I	133	Legal & Gn	206
ASDA Gp	11,000	Lloyds Bk	3,700
Abbey Ntl	4,600	London Elect	937
Allied Dom	818	Marks Spr	3,500
Argyll Gp	1,600	Mid Elec	967
Arjo Wggns	894	NatWst Bk	4,900
AB Foods	230	Nat Power	926
BAA	2,000	NW Water	269
BAT Inds	2,600	P & O	1,500
BOC	275	Pearson	798
BP	4,100	PowerGen	950
BSkyB	1,600	Prudential	2,400
BTR	14,000	REXAM	1,200
BT	24,000	RMC	242
Bk of Scot	736	RTZ	2,200
Barclays	7,500	Rank Org	4,600
Bass	3,400	Reckitt Col	4,400
Blue Circle	4,600	Redland	570
Boots	856	Reed Intl	874
BAe	2,100	Rentokil	816
BA	5,500	Reuters	2,800
Brit Gas	7,300	Rolls Royce	7,100
Brit Steel	5,000	Royal Ins	958
Burmah Cstl	186	Ryl Bk Scot	1,300
Cable Wire	4,800	Sainsbury	2,300
Cadbury	1,200	Schroders	3
Carlton Cms	3,100	Scot & New	4,700
Cm Union	583	Scot Power	1,300
Cookson	511	Sears	5,900
Courtaulds	554	Svrn Trent	1,200
De La Rue	316	Shell Trans	2,200
Enterpr Oil	773	Siebe	826
Forte	2,400	SmKl Bch	4,900
GKN	954	Smith Nph	836
GRE	3,500	Sthern Elec	1,400
GUS	1,300	Std Chartd	4,200
Gen Acc	296	Sun Allnce	924
Gen Elec	3,500	TI Gp	231
Glaxo Well	3,600	TSB	2,400
Granada	164	Tate & Lyle	1,800
Grand Met	2,100	Tesco	5,800
Guinness	1,700	Thames W	161
HSBC	2,400	Thrn EMI	588
Hanson	16,000	Tomkins	2,400
ICI	1,700	Unilever	1,400
Inchcape	4,600	Vodafone	10,000
Kingfisher	3,300	Whitbread	1,600
LASMO	1,900	Wlms Hld	2,800
Ladbroke	10,000	Wolseley	245
Land Secs	285	Zeneca	1,200

WALL STREET

	Dec 6 midday	Dec 5 close
AMP Inc	41¼	40⅞
AMR Corp	77⅛	77⅛
AT & T	66	67⅛
Abbott Labs	41½	40⅞
Advanced Micro	19⅝	20⅜
Aetna Life	72⅛	72
Ahmanson (HF)	27⅜	27⅛
Air Prod & Chem	56½	56½
AirTouch Comm	27⅛	28⅛
Alberto-Culver B	34	34⅜
Albertson's	32⅛	31⅜
Alcan Alumnm	33⅛	34⅜
Alco Standard	43⅜	43⅛
Allied Signal	49⅝	49⅝
Alum Co of Am	57⅛	58¼
Amax Gold Inc	7⅛	7⅛
Amerada Hess	48⅝	49
Amer Brands	42⅞	43
Amer El Power	38⅜	38½
Amer Express	44¼	43⅞
Amer Genl Corp	34	33⅞
Amer Home Pr	95⅞	95⅞
Amer Intl	93⅞	93
Amer Stores	26½	26⅞
Amer Standard	30⅞	30⅞
Ameritech	56⅛	56⅛
Amoco	68⅛	68⅞
Anheuser-Busch	65⅝	65⅞
Apple Computer	38½	39⅞
Archer Daniels	17⅛	17⅛
Armco	5⅝	5⅛
Armstrng Wrld	62	62⅜
Asarco	35⅝	35⅛
Ashland Oil	35⅛	35⅜
Atl Richfield	111⅜	111¼
Auto Data Pro	81½	81½
Avery Dennison	48¼	48⅛
Avon Products	75⅞	75⅞
Baker Hughes	21⅛	21½
Baltim Gas & El	27⅞	27⅛
Banc One	39⅝	39⅞
BankAmerica	68⅞	67⅞
Bank of NY	48	47⅛
Bankers Tr NY	68½	67⅞
Barnett Banks	61½	60⅞
Bausch & Lomb	33⅜	35⅜
Baxter Intl	42	42
Bectn Dicknsn	72⅜	71
Bell Atlantic	64¼	64⅛
Bell Industries	22⅛	22⅛
BellSouth	41¼	40⅞
Black & Decker	36¼	36⅞
Block (H&R)	44⅞	44
Boeing	74⅞	74¼
Boise Cascade	36½	36⅞
Bristol Myrs Sq	84½	84⅛
Browning Ferris	31½	30⅝
Brunswick	21½	21¼
Burlington Nthn	80⅞	82⅜
CNA Financial	115	114⅜
CPC Intl	71½	71½
CSX	87⅞	88
Campbell Soup	58	57⅛
Can Pacific	18⅛	18⅛
Cptl Cities ABC	125⅜	125⅛
Carolina Pwr	33⅜	33⅜
Caterpillar	62⅞	62⅞
Central & SW	28⅛	28⅞
Champion Intl	46	46⅞
Chase Manhat	63⅛	62⅛
Chemical Bk	62⅛	61½
Chevron Corp	51¼	50⅞
Chrysler	52⅜	52⅛
Chubb Corp	99½	99½
Cigna Corp	112⅜	111¼
Citicorp	72⅛	72
Clorox	78	78⅞
Coastal Corp	34⅛	34⅛
Coca Cola	77⅜	77⅛
Colgate-Palmolive	74⅛	73½
Columbia Gas	43⅜	43½
ColumbiaHCA	53	53
Compaq Comp	46⅛	47⅛
Comp Ass Int	67⅛	67⅞
Conagra	40⅞	40⅛
Conrail	69	69⅞
Cons Edison	29⅛	29⅞
Cons Nat Gas	44½	46⅞
Cooper Inds	37⅛	37⅜
Corestates	39⅞	39⅜
Corning Inc	31¼	31½
Crown Cork	42⅛	42⅛
Dana Corp	29⅛	29⅞
Dayton Hudson	72⅛	73
Deere	33⅜	32½
Delta Air Lines	78⅝	79⅜
Deluxe Corp	27⅛	27⅛
Detroit Edison	34½	33⅞
Digital Equip	63½	63⅞
Dillard Dept St	28⅝	29
Disney (Walt)	62⅞	62⅜
Dominion Res	41	40⅞
Donelley (RR)	40⅞	40¼
Dover Corp	38	37⅛
Dow Chemical	72⅛	72⅜
Dow Jones	39⅞	39⅞
Dresser	23⅞	23⅞
Duke Power	46½	46½
Dun & Brdstreet	62⅞	62⅛
Du Pont	68⅛	68⅞

	Dec 6 midday	Dec 5 close
Eastman Kodak	67⅛	66¼
Eaton Corp	55⅜	56
Emerson Elec	80⅝	80⅛
Engelhard Corp	23⅜	23
Enron Corp	38⅜	38⅛
Entergy	27	26⅞
Ethyl Corp	13	12⅜
Exxon	80⅝	79⅞
FMC Corp	73⅜	74⅛
FPL Group	44⅞	44½
Federal Express	81½	80⅞
Fed Nat Mtge	115	114⅞
First Interstate	138⅞	137⅛
First Union Rlty	6⅞	7
Fleet Finl Grp	43	42⅞
Fluor Corp	65	66⅛
Ford Motor	29	29⅞
GTE Corp	42⅛	42⅞
Gannett	64¼	62⅞
Gap Inc Del	43½	44⅛
Gen Dynamics	61½	61½
Gen Electric	70⅞	70
Gen Mills	57⅛	57⅛
Gen Motors	51¼	50⅞
Gen Reinsurance	157⅜	156⅛
Gen Signal	33½	33⅜
Genuine Parts	40⅞	41½
Georgia Pac	73⅜	74⅜
Gillette	53⅞	53
Glaxo Welle ADR	27⅜	27⅛
Goodrich (BF)	68⅛	69
Goodyear Tire	43⅞	44¼
Grace (W&R)	62⅜	62⅛
Grt Atl Pac Tea	21½	21½
Great Wstn Fin	26⅛	26⅜
Halliburton	44⅞	44½
Harcourt General	42⅞	43⅜
Heinz (HJ)	33⅜	33
Hercules	58⅞	58⅜
Hershey Foods	65⅜	65⅜
Hewlett Packard	81¼	81½
Hilton Hotels	64⅞	64¼
Home Depot	44⅝	44⅛
Homestake Mng	16⅜	16⅛
Honeywell	48	48⅜
Household Intl	67⅛	65⅞
Houston Inds	47⅜	47⅞
Humana	27	27⅛
ITT Corp	125⅜	123⅜
Illinois Tool	62⅜	62⅜
Illinova	29⅞	29⅜
INCO	35⅞	35⅜
Ingersoll Rand	37⅞	38⅜
Inland Steel	25⅛	26⅛
Intel Corp	60⅜	61½
IBM	95⅞	95⅞
Intl Flav & Fr	53⅜	53⅞
Intl Paper	37⅜	37⅜
James River Va	32⅛	32⅞
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	90⅞	89⅜
Kellogg	79⅛	78⅜
Kerr-McGee	59⅜	59⅛
Kimberly-Clark	75	75½
Kmart	7⅛	8
Knight-Ridder	66¼	66
Lilly (Eli)	101½	100⅞
Limited Inc	17⅛	17⅛
Lincoln Nat	49	49
Litton	45⅜	45⅞
Liz Claiborne	29⅞	29⅜
Lockheed Martin	76	75½
Louisiana Pac	26¼	26
MCI Comm	26½	26⅛
Marriott Int	39⅛	39⅛
Marsh & McLnn	88⅜	87⅜
Masco Corp	29⅜	29⅜
May Dept St	44⅛	44⅛
Maytag Corp	20⅞	20⅞
McDonalds	45⅜	45⅜
McDonnell D	89⅛	89⅞
McGraw Hill	84⅛	84½
Mead Corp	57	57
Medtronic	53⅞	54⅛
Mellon Bk	56	55⅜
Melville Corp	32	31½
Merck Inc	63½	63⅞
Merrill Lynch	56½	56⅞
Microsoft	88¹⁵⁄₁₆	86
Minnesota Mine	66⅛	66⅛
Mobil Corp	109⅛	109⅜
Monsanto	118⅞	120
Morgan (JP)	82⅛	81
Motorola Inc	60⅛	60⅞
Natl Semi	21½	20⅞
Natl Service Ind	32⅞	32
Navistar Int	10⅜	11⅛
NY Times A	29⅜	29⅛
Newmont Mng	42⅛	42⅛
Ning Mohawk	10⅜	10⅜
Nike B	61⅞	60⅞
NL Industries	12⅜	12⅞
Noram Energy	8⅛	8⅛
Nordstrom	39⅛	39⅜
Norfolk Sthn	79⅛	79⅛
Nthn State Pwr	48⅛	48⅞
Norwest Corp	34⅛	34⅛
Nynex Corp	48⅛	48⅛
Occidental Pet	22⅛	22⅞
Ohio Edison	23	22⅛
Oracle	43⅞	45

	Dec 6 midday	Dec 5 close
Oryx Energy Co	13⅜	13⅛
Owens Corning	46½	46⅞
PPG Industries	47⅛	47⅛
PNC Bank	30	30⅛
PP&L Res	24⅞	25
Paccar Inc	46⅛	45⅞
Pacificorp	20⅛	20⅜
Pac Enterprises	27⅛	27⅛
Pac Gas & Elect	28⅛	28⅛
Pac Telesis	31½	31½
Pall Corp	27⅛	27⅛
Panhandle East	28⅞	28
Parker-Hannifin	36⅞	37⅛
Peco Energy	29⅜	29⅜
Penney (JC)	47⅛	47⅜
Pennzoil	39⅜	39⅜
Pepsico	57⅛	57⅛
Pfizer	63⅞	64⅛
Pharm & Upjhn	37⅛	37⅜
Phelps Dodge	67⅜	67⅛
Philip Morris	90⅞	89⅞
Phillips Pet	33⅜	34
Pitney Bowes	47⅛	47⅛
Polaroid	47⅛	47⅛
PriceCostco	16⁹⁄₁₆	16⅞
Procter & Gmbl	87⅛	86½
Providian	41½	41½
Pub Serv E & G	30	29⅞
Quaker Oats	35⅛	35⅛
Ralston Purina	65⅜	65⅛
Raychem Corp	57	56⅞
Raytheon	45⅛	45⅜
Reebok Intl	25⅜	26⅛
Reynolds Metals	56½	57⅛
Rockwell Intl	51	50⅜
Rohm & Haas	64⅞	63⅞
Royal Dutch	131½	130⅞
Rubbermaid	26⅛	27⅛
SBC Comms	55⅜	55⅞
Safeco Corp	36⅛	36⅞
St Paul's Cos	57⅛	57⅛
Salomon Inc	35⅜	36
Sara Lee Corp	33⅛	33
Scecorp	15⅞	15⅜
Schering Plough	60	59⅞
Schlumberger	67⅜	67⅞
Scott Paper	58⅞	57½
Seagram	36	35⅞
Sears Roebuck	39	38⅞
Shell Trans	76⅜	76¼
Sherwin Wlms	40⅛	39⅞
Skyline Corp	19⅛	19⅜
Snap-On-Tools	43⅞	43⅜
Southern Co	24	23⅞
Sprint Corp	40⅞	40⅜
Stanley Works	51½	50⅞
Sun Company	27⅜	27½
Sun Microsys	88⅛	89⅜
Suntrust	70⅞	69⅜
Supervalu	32⅛	32⅜
Sysco Corp	31⅜	31½
TRW Inc	77	75⅛
TCC Inds	2½	2½
Tandem Comp	12⅜	12⅜
Tandy Corp	45⅛	46⅞
Teledyne	24⅞	24⅜
Temple Inland	46¼	46¼
Tenneco	48⅞	48⅛
Texaco	76⅞	75⅞
Texas Inst	52⅜	53⅜
Texas Utilities	38⅜	38⅞
Textron	76⅜	76½
Time Warner	40	40⅞
Times-Mirror A	33⅞	33½
Timken	40⅛	40⅞
Torchmark	43⅜	43⅜
Toys R Us	23⅜	23⅞
Transamerica	79⅜	78¼
Travelers	62⅜	62⅜
Tribune	66⅛	65⅞
Tyco Labs	33½	32⅞
UST Inc	34⅛	33⅜
UAL	206¼	207⅛
US Inds	17⅜	17⅛
USX Marathon	18⅜	18⅞
Unicom	32⅞	32⅛
Unilever NV	139⅜	141½
Union Camp	49⅛	49⅜
Union Carbide	40⅞	40⅛
Union Pacific	67⅛	68⅜
Unisys Corp	6⅛	6⅛
USAIR Group	12	12⅜
USF&G Corp	17⅛	17⅛
US Life	30⅜	30⅞
United Tech	96½	97
Unocal Corp	28⅜	27⅞
VF Corp	52⅞	52
WMX Tech	30⅛	30
Wal-Mart Stores	24⅞	24⅜
Warner-Lambert	93	94⅛
Wells Fargo	217½	216⅜
Westinghouse El	16⅛	16⅛
Weyerhaeuser	45	44⅞
Whirlpool	56⅛	56⅜
Whitman	22⅛	22⅛
Winn Dixie	35½	34⅞
Woolworth	14½	14⅞
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	47⅜	47⅛
Xerox	141½	143⅜
Yellow Corp	12⅛	12⅞

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هكذا من الأصل

THE TIMES

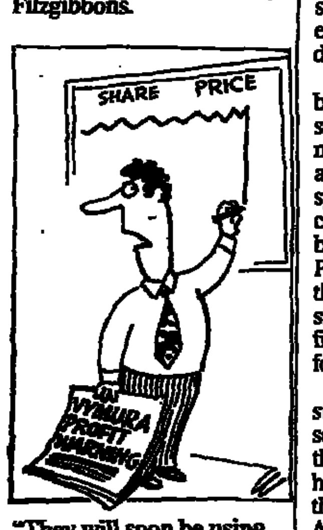
CITY DIARY

Life and death matter of VAT

OFFICIALDOM is doing its best to dampen festive cheer for Peter Jenkins, VAT specialist at accountant Ernst & Young. First Kenneth Clarke's Budget closed an ingenuous VAT-saving scheme. Now Jenkins has discovered that China is to bring in the death penalty for VAT fraud. This somewhat drastic, *no-nonsense* approach, which could give Michael Howard a few ideas, should boost demand for tax-planning schemes cooked up by Jenkins and his colleagues, which are designed to be totally legal, but ups the ante somewhat *should* the courts decide otherwise.

Bond ad-venture

CINEMA audiences have sat spellbound as the latest James Bond scales new heights, jumping from plane to train to bed. He also *manouevres* a rather cumbersome tank around the picturesque streets of St Petersburg. Aleksey Vlasov, ex-Russian KGB, and Harry Fitzgibbons, ex-CIA, were both on the scene during filming. The two men — both built like tanks with arms like gorillas — were hired as extras, while they were by chance working in St Petersburg in their real-life roles as businessmen in charge of their latest investment adventure, the Russian Technology Fund. "It's easier to spot a good venture capital deal than it is to pick me out in the film," says Mr Fitzgibbons.



"They will soon be using our shares as wallpaper"

Paper chase

POST early for Christmas ... *Sun Life*, the Bristol life assurer, went to great trouble — and considerable expense — over its annual 300-strong consignment of desk diaries, to be despatched with seasonal cheer to contacts on Fleet Street. The marketing men were not amused when eight out of nine boxes went astray somewhere between Bristol and London. The errant diaries finally came to light after a two-week search — in a timber merchant's in West Yorkshire. "We got them in the end," says a relieved Sun spokesman.

Poetry corner

PICK of the Christmas ditties now doing the rounds:

Cable and Wireless are currently hiring.
Two bright sparks to replace those they're firing.
They must have great strengths,
Share the same wave lengths,
And the wish to indulge in a little rewiring.

Yorkshire Water PLC
Is in deep water (metaphorically)
After too many leaks
In too many dry weeks
They're wishing for rain — endlessly

Lloyd's of London are all at sea,
Being dropped by the pilot so unexpectedly.
If they toll the Bell Lutine,
The Names will all mutiny,
And Lloyd's will walk the plank, you'll see.

How about some more from our readers? A bottle of bubbly for the best offering.

ECONOMIC VIEW

JANET BUSH

Can Honest Ken sell you another Tory government?

Economic facts may not bear out the Chancellor's confidence, says **Janet Bush**

Kenneth Clarke is quite right that voters, who have become viscerally suspicious of his party, would not have been taken in by a big tax-cutting bribe. He should also be applauded for rebutting the myth, perpetrated by ever more desperate Conservative backbenchers, that only lower taxes win elections. Where Mr Clarke may be wrong is in assuming that, if he breaks with the tradition of his predecessors and avoids patronising voters, their confidence will levitate by magic.

This recovery, shortly to enter its fifth year, was supposed to be different, led by exports and investment, rebalanced away from the consumption that has invariably got Britain into current account and currency trouble. Now, however, after having the pips squeezed out of them by higher taxes and interest rates, consumers are expected to make a miraculous recovery and see the Tories to an election win in 18 months' time.

Post-Budget, the Chancellor has made much of himself as oxymoronic honest politician, purveyor of realism in the face of the frenzy of wish-fulfilment pursued by the Right of his party. He chuckled even as the City was reacting badly to his large government borrowing forecasts, acknowledging that previous Chancellors had "bunged in whatever figures suited them", and confidently expected longer-term dividends for his honesty.

A week on, the edge has been taken off Mr Clarke's self-confidence. The Budget, in many ways, is being exposed as an act of faith. The best symbol of this was the press conference held the next day by the men trying to sell the Private Finance Initiative as the coming big idea, the saviour of the Government's finances, the efficiency elixir for the NHS to the railways.

Naive souls had always assumed that industry's failure to see the scheme's benefits was the main reason that the PFI has not got off the ground in the three years since its conception. Apparently, this is not exclusively the case. We were told that it was taking a long time to sign up true believers within government itself.

The big new initiative was a scheme to be run by Price Waterhouse, the accountant, to train civil servants to like the idea. And, while they are being suitably indoctrinated, the capital spending budget is slashed, with very little PFI money to replace it. This is hardly the recipe for kick-starting the construction industry, such a drag to growth in the third quarter.

Let us, however, return to the consumer. The Budget Red Book forecasts a rise in consumer spending of 3.5 per cent, powering the economy to growth of 3 per cent. The Treasury appears to rely on various sources of renewed confidence: the simple fact that taxes may not have fallen much but at least will not rise next year; that incomes will be rising; that many consumers will be beneficiaries of the maturing of Tessa savings accounts, building society merger bonuses and the rebate from the sale of the National Grid; that house prices will start rising; and that another year of sensible government management of the economy will finally convince consumers to come to their senses and feel good.

Holes can be picked in all of this. The Budget did a lot of good things, but on far too small a scale to make a difference. Tax cuts of £3.14 billion in an economy of £700 billion a year are small fry. The Institute for Fiscal Studies calculates that the average gain is £2.20 a week. Set against this only two subsequent pieces of news — above-inflation rises in rail fares and council taxes — and there is not much doubt that most people will be worse off.

Add to that the distributional impact of the Budget, which favoured the modestly wealthy to the rich and penalised poorer people. As David Owen, of Kleinwort Benson, points out, the lowest income decile is estimated to have a negative saving ratio of minus 30 per cent while the top decile has a positive savings ratio of about plus 25 per cent. Tax cuts skewed towards those on lower incomes would have unleashed more consumption.

Treasury optimism on incomes is probably misplaced. As Peter Warburton, of Robert Fleming, points out, surveys of employment prospects have weakened noticeably in the past six months and falling productivity growth in manufacturing is feeding through into bonus payments and, hence, average earnings.

The contribution by government to individuals will fall because of the curtailment of some benefits. The sharp but temporary fall in retail price inflation early next year because of electricity rebates will also help to take the sting out of pay negotiations. These were never going to be troublesome in an economy where job insecurity is proving a permanent drain on confidence.

Will windfalls save the day? Probably not. Like the Budget tax cuts, bonuses from building society mergers will go mostly to people who tend to save rather than spend. The same can be said of Tessas, with a high proportion of that money likely to be rolled over into new ones. For those who live off their savings, lower interest rates, widely thought to be the Chancellor's reward for caution, will make them poorer and only increase their compulsion to save.

Perhaps the electricity rebate will be spent on scratch cards, but it is not cash in hand and people are worried about the future. Even the Bank of England has identified a big build-up of bank and building society deposits and attributed this partly to concern about unemployment.

Some confidence may return if house prices start picking up next year, as the upturn in net new mortgage commitments suggest. In addition, mortgage lenders are now desperate enough to offer value for money without a lead from government. However, no one thinks that the housing recovery is going to be dramatic and there has been a marked reluctance to buy, in spite of the historically attractive affordability levels trumpeted by the Government.

The last argument in favour of a consumer revival is that people will eventually find themselves impressed with the caution, honesty and stability of Mr Clarke. Yes, perhaps with historical hindsight his defence of One Nation Toryism against the Right will be praised. However, the mood of the electorate for now suggests that this Government — even one of its more competent and likeable members — will not get the benefit of the doubt.

The Government is right to loosen the screw on consumers because they matter as much as ever to the health of the economy. There is little doubt that, alongside cuts in government capital spending, investment has faltered because of uncertainty about domestic demand. British companies have never been good at pre-emptive investment without having an end customer in sight.

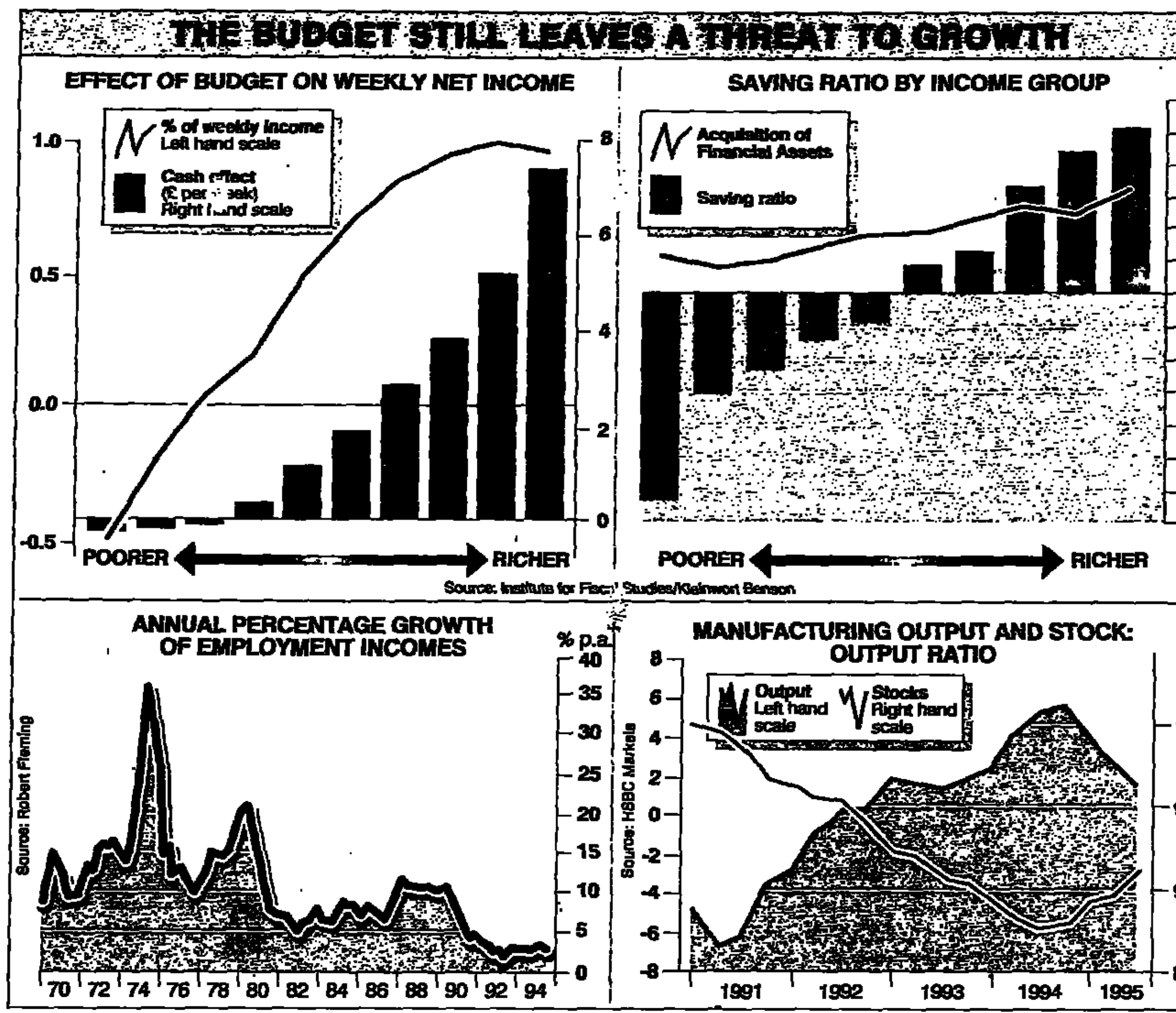
Yesterday's news of a paltry 0.2 per cent rise in manufacturing in October and earlier figures showing a huge build-up of stocks over the past three quarters illustrate the problem companies have with failing demand. The drawing down of those stock levels — which does not seem to have been properly recognised in the Chancellor's optimistic growth forecast — is likely to mean poor growth figures into the first half of next year. Kleinwort Benson figures that if unwinding of these stock surpluses were to hold growth down to 1 per cent annualised in the fourth quarter of this year and the first of next, the Chancellor would need annualised growth of 6 per cent in the last nine months of 1996 to hit his target. This is a tall order.

The last potential source of growth that figures large in the Treasury's equations is exports, expected to rise by 7.25 per cent next year. This, too, seems optimistic, with the recovery in America looking shaky and Europe refusing to free itself from the vicious deflationary grip of the pre-monetary union era.

There were two hidden assets, it was thought, to Mr Clarke's Budget: interest rates could be brought down and his borrowing numbers were deliberately pessimistic, leaving room for more tax cuts next November. But there are two problems. The Chancellor's claim — backed by his top officials at the Commons Treasury Select Committee this week — that 3 per cent growth could be attained without rate cuts may be taken at face value by the Bank, which may oppose him when he changes his mind. Without rate cuts, 3 per cent does not seem achievable, even Mr Clarke's "honestly pessimistic" borrowing figures may be overshot and there will be no tax cuts even if the Tories manage to hang on for another Budget.

> ❛The Budget, in many ways, is being exposed as an act of faith❜

THE BUDGET STILL LEAVES A THREAT TO GROWTH



Source: Institute for Fiscal Studies/Kleinwort Benson

Source: Robert Fleming

Source: HSBC Markets

Opt-out deal not cast-iron, says Philip Bassett

Works councils rise to challenge

The social chapter opt-out gives UK companies a "breathing space" on bringing in European-style works councils, rather than ending their chances of being introduced, engineering companies said yesterday.

Ministers claim that the opt-out, negotiated by the Prime Minister at the time of the Maastricht treaty, has removed the necessity for British companies to be affected by new employment law brought forward under its provisions.

But increasingly, in spite of the opt-out, UK companies are putting in place measures such as the European Works Councils (EWCs), which other member states have to implement under EU directives.

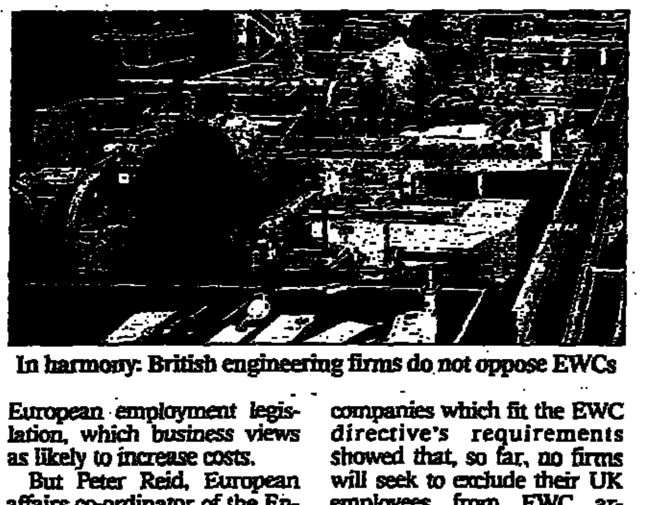
Engineering industry leaders praised the political pressure exerted by the opt-out in creating the option of voluntary agreements on EWCs, and in slowing the pace of European employment legislation, which business views as likely to increase costs.

But Peter Reid, European affairs co-ordinator of the Engineering Employers' Federation (EEF), said that, in the case of British companies and EWCs, the opt-out was a "breathing space rather than an end-stop". He said new research among engineering companies which fit the EWC directive's requirements showed that, so far, no firms will seek to exclude their UK employees from EWC arrangements they introduce.

The EEF calculates that 66 engineering companies will be directly affected by the EWC directive in spite of the opt-out, with a further 900 subsidiaries of multinational companies affected less closely. Engineering employers believe these figures will rise if Labour is elected and enacts its pledge to sign up to the social chapter.

The EEF said yesterday that the EWC directive is "fundamentally important to the UK". Not only was it the first trans-national law dealing with information and consultation, but it would become fully applicable if Labour were in government.

In conjunction with the industrial relations research unit at Warwick University, the EEF is to tour areas of Britain with a European Commission-sponsored presentation on the impact and importance of EWCs to engineering companies. It will try to detail problems of consultation, such as the cost — including translations — of holding EWC meetings, which EEF leaders say is about £100,000 per session.



In harmony: British engineering firms do not oppose EWCs

UK and Irish pitted in an EU clash of steel

Britain is blocking a Dublin scheme of state aid. **Eileen McCabe** reports

The Irish are angry. They thought they had settled the future of Irish Steel after a long hot summer of negotiations with several international companies. They claim that the deal on the future of Ireland's only steel plant, signed with ISPAT International, an Indian corporation, in September, has fallen victim to British intransigence.

Richard Bruton, the Irish Minister for Enterprise and Employment, triumphantly unveiled the complex rescue package for Irish Steel in September and he must have thought the main hurdles to securing the future of the 350 workers at the troubled Cork plant had been cleared.

The Haulbowline steel plant was set up in 1939 and taken over by the state in 1947. By the mid 1970s, it was in financial difficulty and since then has needed public money to stay afloat.

The company has manufacturing facilities throughout the world, with a workforce of almost 7,000 producing more than 6.5 million tonnes of liquid steel. Irish government sources cited ISPAT's impressive track record of quickly reversing the fortunes of steel plants formerly under state control as the main reason for doing business with the company.

Under the complex deal, the Irish Government agreed to write off loans of Ir£17 million to the Cork plant and to inject a further Ir£10.5 million into the company. ISPAT International promised to invest Ir£30 million in the plant over the next five years and to take on about Ir£22 million of Irish Steel debt. The Indian company also guaranteed to provide 331 jobs at the plant for five years and accepted that there would be financial penalties if the employment quota were not met.

Mr Bruton went to Brussels to get the blessing of his EU colleagues for the deal. Most nodded approval, but Luxembourg, Denmark and Britain expressed reservations. After a few discussion sessions, Irish officials managed to iron out what they called "small, essentially technical details" with both Luxembourg and Denmark.

However, similar discussions with the British delegation in Brussels yielded no results. Talks shifted to London, and, after several heated sessions, the Irish Government agreed to a reduction in the quantity of finished steel that the Cork plant would sell into the European Union. As a result of that concession, the Irish Government was forced to increase its cash injection to the plant from Ir£10.5 million to Ir£15.5 million.

In spite of the movement from the Irish side, Britain held firm to its objections to the buyout. On Monday, the Irish minister held what was described as a "tense" meeting with Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, but failed to resolve the issue.

Afterwards, the Irish team made no secret of its anger and frustration at what it sees as continued British intransigence. "We are absolutely baffled ... bewildered even. It really is quite extraordinary," an official said. "You must remember that this is the same Britain which has approved six very similar aid packages to steel plants in Spain, Germany and Italy over the past two years."

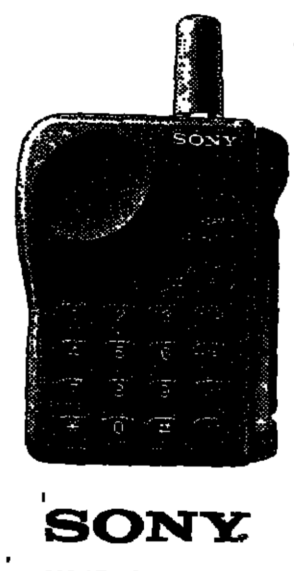
According to another official, the British Government argument that the Irish Steel deal would affect the British Steel plant at Shelton is "simply ludicrous". Under the proposed rescue plan, Irish Steel would increase production by 35,000 tonnes. "The Shelton plant produces about 400,000 tonnes annually of the same product ... so it's not going to close down because of Irish Steel," the official said.

One source said: "It's not a drop in the British Steel ocean, as far as we are concerned ... it's not even a molecule."

Irish officials believe that the British stance can be traced to the powerful lobbying of British Steel. They say that close scrutiny of the level of British Government aid to the privatisation of British Steel makes the Irish deal look "very sweet indeed".

So sweet that the Irish Government is determined that it will go through. "As far as we are concerned," one Irish official said, "and as far as the rest of the EU is concerned — even some British officials in Brussels — we have the high moral ground here and we are going to win."

> ❛We have the high moral ground and are going to win❜



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Kingfisher fights back with sales recovery

By Sarah Bagnall

KINGFISHER yesterday sought to dispel fears that the costly problems suffered at Woolworth and Comet last Christmas are likely to resurface this year with news of a near-5 per cent rise in third quarter sales.

Last Christmas, Kingfisher was hit by operating difficulties at Woolworth which resulted in severe delays in getting products on shelves, while uncompetitive pricing on toys meant sales were lost to rival Argos. Comet suffered from a too-rapid move to new systems and a mishandled shift to more expensive products. The problems knocked group profits and were followed by the departure of four directors.

Referring to the 4.8 per cent rise in sales in the 13 weeks to October 28, Sir Geoffrey Mulcahy, chief executive, said the figures were "encouraging" given the tough trading conditions. Marks and Spencer revealed the ferocity of the market last month when it revealed a dip in non-food sales over the same period.

The rise reflected improved results from all the group's businesses, which encompass B&Q, Darty, the French electrical chain, Superdrug, Woolworth and Comet.

Tony Shiret, an analyst at Barclays de Zoete Wedd, said: "Kingfisher is not chasing the game this Christmas. Some of the infrastructure changes they have made puts them in a much better position." It emerged yesterday that earlier this week Mercury Asset Management lifted its holding in Kingfisher from 13 per cent to 14 per cent.

Woolworth sales rose 2.7 per cent and like-for-like sales increased 1.8 per cent. Stripping out August, when sales were hit by the hot weather, underlying sales rose 5.8 per cent. B&Q like-for-like sales were flat, compared with a 3.4 per cent rise at Comet, 2.8 per cent at Superdrug and 0.1 per cent at Darty.

Full cream: Alan Wiseman, chairman of Robert Wiseman Dairies, which yesterday announced an increase of 33 per cent in pre-tax profits to £3.92 million in the half-year ended September 30. During the period, Wiseman Dairies acquired the CWS Scottish milk business.

Depressed housing market takes toll on NFC profits

By Philip Pangalos

INTENSE competition in already difficult markets, increased European losses and hefty restructuring provisions undertaken by a new management team took a toll on full-year profits at NFC, the transport and logistics group.

A sluggish housing market saw pre-tax profits before exceptional charges slide to £76.2 million in the year to September 30, against a restated £105.6 million last time. Turnover, boosted by acquisitions, climbed to £2.2 billion (£2.06 billion). However, a £35 million exceptional provision, which NFC warned of in June after new management came in, saw bottom line pre-tax profits slump to £38.6 million.

NFC shares slid 10p to 139p as the group's new management team, headed by Sir Christopher Bland, chairman, and Gerry Murphy, chief executive, predicted another tough year ahead.

However, Mr Murphy said the restructuring, aimed at reducing costs and tackling under-performing businesses, is well under way, with most projects expected to have a pay-back within two years.

The restructuring, involving total provisions of £57 million, has already led to about 1,000 job losses, mostly in the UK. NFC presently has about 37,000 employees, 17,000 of whom are shareholders, many dating back to 1982's employee buyout from the Government. NFC expects the overall headcount to rise, largely because of a logistics joint venture with Bass.

The Pickfords moving services business continued to suffer as a result of a depressed housing market, with the UK home moving market accounting for two-thirds of its activity. However, a greater concentration on office and commercial removals helped offset the downturn in home moving. Moving services losses increased substantially because of "severe price competition" in northern Europe and start-up losses in eastern European operations.

Exel Logistics was particularly hard hit by the tough market conditions, which saw margin erosion, as well as increased development costs.

The picture in Europe remained bleak as losses deepened to £10.1 million (£4.8 million loss), although acquisitions helped revenues increase 41 per cent to £305 million.

North America was also a tough market. Operating profits tumbled 49 per cent to £14.7 million, on turnover down 1 per cent to £716 million.

A final dividend of 2.6p, payable on February 20, gives a maintained total of 7.1p for the year, uncovered by a drop in earnings to 2p (11.2p) a share. Gearing rose to 29.6 per cent (7.8 per cent).

Olsen rules himself out of top C&W post

By Eric Reguly

RODNEY OLSEN, finance director of Cable and Wireless, has ruled himself from contention for the chief executive's post, virtually ensuring the job will go to an outsider.

Mr Olsen, acting chief executive after the board ousted Lord Young, executive chairman, and James Ross, chief executive, late last month, was considered the leading internal candidate. A New Zealander, he oversaw the acquisition of Hong Kong Telecom, the most valuable company within the group, and became finance director in 1987.

He is a member of the board committee charged with finding a new chief executive — a task expected to take six months.

Separately, the company said its lawyers are discussing a pay-off package that may be due to Lord Young even though he had no employment contract.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Optimistic Rank sees shares advance

SHARES in Rank Organisation, the leisure group, climbed 15p to 424p yesterday, after the company issued an upbeat trading statement and said the outlook for 1996 was better than at any time since 1990. The company bounced back from a disappointing performance at the half-year stage, reporting improvements in its film and television, holiday and leisure divisions. But recreation profits were hit by the the lottery, turnover falling 6 per cent and profit by around £16 million as bingo admissions dropped 11 per cent over the ten months to November 4. For the twelve months to November 4 total operating profit rose 11 per cent to £250 million.

Total profits at Rank Xerox, the photocopier company, rose 30 per cent for the nine months to September 30, although received profit was lower owing to Rank's £620 million disposal of 40 per cent of its holding, which reduced the profit contribution from 33 to 20 per cent.

Blick debt tumbles

BLICK, the manufacturer of time control and security equipment, expects gearing, which has fallen from a peak of 167 per cent in late 1993 to 41 per cent in September, to be eliminated altogether by March 1996. Yesterday the company reported a rise in pre-tax profits to £14.2 million from £12.26 million for the year to September 30. Earnings improved to 34.2p a share from 29.7p. The total dividend is increased to 13p a share from 11.5p with a 9p final, due on April 3. The shares fell 10p to 426p. Alan Elliot, the chairman, said he remained optimistic about the outlook for the current year, despite the patchy economic recovery.

Rolls wins $250m order

ROLLS-ROYCE, the UK aero-engines manufacturer, added to its swelling order book yesterday with a $250 million contract to supply engines for US-built Gulfstream corporate jets. The company said the order would take production of Tay engines for the Gulfstream IV-SP aircraft into the next century. John Cheffins, managing director of Rolls-Royce Commercial Aero Engines, said: "This new Tay order further cements the relationship between our two companies and takes the total number of Rolls-Royce engines ordered for Gulfstream aircraft to more than 2,300 since the GI entered service in 1959."

BTP acquires TCC

BTP, the specialist chemicals group that raised £52 million through a rights issue in February, is acquiring TCC, based in North Wales, from Monsanto for £3.6 million, extending its range of biocides, which are used in soap production. BTP also announced a rise in pre-tax profits to £21 million from £18.1 million in the six months to the end of September. Earnings per share rose to 9.07p from 8.83p, and the interim dividend of 3.85p, due on February 12, rises from 3.68p. The shares rose 13p to 272p. Steve Hannam, chief executive, said: "Continued raw material price increases were a significant factor in the first half of the year, but these have now eased."

Hill Hire on the climb

HILL HIRE, the commercial vehicle hire company, yesterday announced strong interim results for the six months to September 30 in the wake of its acquisition of EuroTrailer Rental Limited in April. Pre-tax profits rose to £1.47 million from £933,000. Earnings per share grew from 3.92p to 4.5p, and an interim dividend of 1.23p will be paid on January 31, up 15 per cent on last year. John Priestley, chairman, said: "The investment we have made in extending our fleet and facilities, and the significant progress we have so far attained, give us great confidence."

ACCOUNTANCY

Europe's fight against fraud

Noel Hepworth assesses the steps that have been taken to ensure efficient use of Community funds

The 1995 Report of the European Court of Auditors, published on November 14, was another excuse for Euro-bashing rather than the considered response that could have been hoped for given the great strides that have been made by the European Commission to reduce fraud and achieve better financial management.

There was, again, a failure to recognise that much blame for lack of control of European funds lies with governments. They can be unwilling to agree to the Commission having the appropriate powers; they can abuse the intentions of the European funding schemes, or they can be plain incompetent in policing those schemes.

The reaction to the 1994 audit report showed there was considerable misunderstanding about where responsibility lay for the misuse of European Community funds, especially over their fraudulent use. The Commission was largely blamed, with nation states largely exonerated.

Shifting the blame to others is a fairly standard political response. What was unusual about the reaction to the 1994 report was that there was no well-articulated response to identify and promote an alternative view. The result was, and is, to create adverse images about the European Union which are unfair, and damaging to EU institutions and to the democratic processes in each member state, because they allow governments to avoid responsibility for their own inadequacies.

The problems in securing efficiency and effectiveness in the use of Community funds arise at the outset — with the legislative process. The political imperative is to achieve an acceptable agreement, which can conflict with producing robust legislation capable of:

☐ delivering the same political objectives and programmes throughout the EU; and

☐ securing strong control processes.

The administrative arrangements then compound these problems. A form of shared management exists between the Commission and governments for the activities flowing from the legislative processes. The Commission allocates funds and makes payments generally to beneficiaries via member states. Governments are largely responsible for authorising individual payments under Commission rules.

Noel Hepworth says accountants have a role to play

The processes are not transparent. Therefore blame for failure is easy to shift. There is as much a question mark over the quality of administration in some member states as there is over the Commission, and with the latter we have seen strenuous efforts to improve the quality of administration over the past 12 months, not least the announcements on November 8 on sound and efficient financial management.

A key initiative has been the added emphasis on fighting fraud. The Commission has reinforced its protection of the financial interests of the EU by the appointment of a Commissioner, Anita Gradin, with responsibility for the anti-fraud programme. The result has been a series of proposals to strengthen the EU treaties, designed to combat fraud.

The constant need to reconcile different interests, coupled with a concern by some governments not to add to the Commission's powers, continues to make the introduction of an effective anti-fraud operational environment by the Commission difficult. Any initiative to reinforce the protection of EU financial interests has to tackle the division of responsibilities between the Commission and governments.

The real message of the 1994 and 1995 reports is that success in improving efficiency and effectiveness in the use of Community funds lies with all EU institutions. Governments should not be allowed to escape their share of the blame, and success depends very much upon the co-operation, support and efficiency of governments, which are not necessarily forthcoming.

The critics of the EU appear to have failed to recognise the success of the Commission to achieve greater value for money. The accountancy profession, with its emphasis upon "true and fair" perceptions, has some responsibility to set the record straight.

The author is chairman of the Public Sector Committee of the European Federation of Accountants and director of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy

Slow journey ahead for Cadbury Mark 2

ROBERT BRUCE

THERE are some economic indicators economists know nothing about. One of them should be known as the corporate governance indicator. Tracking this indicator suggests the corporate sector and boards of directors generally are about to enjoy a period of steady expansion through the next three years. How do we know this? Simple: the successor body to the Cadbury committee on corporate governance has announced that "wait and see" will be its motto.

In other words the cycle of enthusiasm about corporate governance has reached the bottom of a trough, or, depending on your point of view, the top of a curve. Corporate governance is only fashionable in a recession. At that point in the cycle boards of directors, and finance directors in particular, know that sooner or later all their mistakes will come out in the wash. The more prolonged the recession the more their errors of strategy and the accounting methods used to camouflage them will become apparent. To salvage anything from this embarrassment eminent members of the corporate sector form a committee to ensure that "this sort of thing cannot happen again".

Corporate governance and statements about responsibility are fine when all a company is doing is treading water. In an economic upturn when mergers, acquisitions and deals, to say nothing of chief executives' egos and share options, fuel a firestorm of activity then the niceties of corporate governance, to put it politely, tend to take a back seat. Hence the worries surrounding the delay over setting up the successor to Cadbury and its extreme reticence about the need to do anything now that it has been set up. This should come as no surprise. The wonderfully orchestrated delay in even setting up the successor committee and the lacklustre comments during that delay on its possible agenda, had already told their own story.

At the end of 1993, when Sir Ron Dearing bowed out as head of the Financial Reporting Council, his assessment of its first three years was enthusiastic about widening the financial reporting perspective to include its corporate governance aspects. By the time his successor, Sir Sydney Lipworth, was talking about the issues in the next annual review, which itself suffered slippage until last February, the FRC was talking of "the management of the possible 'overload' of financial reporting proposals".

The original Cadbury committee recommended that the Financial Reporting Council "should appoint a new committee by the end of June 1995 to examine how far compliance with the Code of Best Practice has progressed, how far our other recommendations have been implemented, and whether the code needs updating". This was announced in 1992, which you would have thought was reasonable notice. But it was not until November 22 this year that Sir Sydney announced the successor committee and its new chairman, Sir Ronnie Hampel of ICI.

In May, Sir Adrian Cadbury bowed out with a press conference showing the encouraging levels of disclosure of compliance with the Code. And he and other members were bubbling over with work that their successor committee would have to tackle.

Sir Adrian said that it would "have a major job in simply looking at what happened as a result of the Code". He talked of whether the guidelines were entirely appropriate for all listed companies; of the issue of "going concern"; and, enthusiastically, about how, with more sponsors, the committee's work could be broadened. All this was recommended on top of the considerable list of issues that the committee's original report had said its successor "may wish to review or consider in greater detail".

"In retrospect," Mike Sandland, another committee member, said at that press conference, "we may have been a bit timid."

But they could not have contemplated how timid the successor committee was intended to be. Hampel is, as he said when he was announced as chairman, "a strong believer in good corporate governance". But what no one believes in any longer is maintaining the Cadbury impetus.

The new committee has its first meeting next month. Despite the workload suggested formally and informally by the Cadbury committee, Hampel said: "We have got to get through next year's cycle of annual reports before we take soundings. Then perhaps we might publish a consultative document around mid-1997, and a report, if required, by the end of 1997." This valuable economic indicator suggests there is going to be a tremendous boom in the corporate sector over the next few years.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Merger mania

THIS week the councils of the English ICA and Cima, the management accounting body, decide whether to continue their merger negotiations by sending detailed proposals to their members. One figure which will probably not appear is the estimated cost of getting the whole effort to a vote. With 107,000 members to convince, the English ICA alone faces a bill of £1.2 million for surveys, consultancy and mailings. But it intends to remain jolly about the whole issue. Members should get all the bumph amongst their Christmas cards.

Test card

GEOFF WHITTINGTON, owes his allegiance to Price Waterhouse, who sponsor him as professor of accounting at Cambridge. But at a PW conference this week Whittingon revealed that his first task every day is to seek information from another accounting firm. Coopers & Lybrand have put their cricket ratings on the Internet. So every morning as the good professor switches on his PC it tells him who is currently the best Test batsman in the world.

A course too far

JEFF WOOLER, the indefatigable accountancy tutor, has long been famous for having more letters after his name than a tin of alaphabet soup. But his enthusiasm to encourage others to do the same has landed him in trouble. The English ICA has reprimanded and fined him £1,000 after action by Camden Council. It had taken Wooler to court for advertising an MBA course which had not been accredited by a recognised university. His plea that the course had since been accredited by the University of Kampala failed to save him from the fine.

Body politics

ACCOUNTING standards and the French, like nuclear bombs and New Zealand Prime Ministers, do not go well together. Sir Bryan Carsberg, chairman of the International Accounting Standards Board, was in Paris last week to talk to regulators. In particular he tried to convince them of the value of some of the American-inspired accounting rules. "Wrong thing to say," he said. "I could tell by the body language."

ROBERT BRUCE

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DECEMBER 7 1995

ROUNDUP

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Shares mark time in thin trading

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
2937¼	2137¼	ABN-AMRO	2868¾	− 68¾	4.5	10.8
854	413	Abbey Natl	837	− 8	3.8	12.8
388	259	Allied Irish	385	+ 3	3.9	10.7
288	198	Aus New Z	288	...	5.3	...
4337½	2531¼	Bank America	4331¼	− 6¼	...	...
285	181½	Bank Scotland	279	− 2	2.8	12.3
812½	557¼	Barclays	784	− 11	3.8	10.7
408	288	Bk of Ireland	408	+ 4	3.5	9.8
525	418	Cater Allen	450	...	8.5	7.3
4718¾	2458	Citicorp	4689¾	− 62¼	...	...
340½	218¼	Close Bros	327	...	3.3	14.5
2162¼	1129¼	Commerzbk	2151¼	+ 109¼	3.6	...
1375	893¼	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1340¾	+ 6¼	0.4	...
3231¼	2775	Deutsche Bk	3125	+ 9¼	2.4	...
681½	508¼	Espirito Santo	634¾	+ 16¼	5.6	8.4
1811	1139¼	Fuji Bank Y	1370	− 8	0.4	...
480	385	Gerrard Natl	453	...	6.2	14.6
253	180	Hambros	202	− 1	4.6	...
1012	580	HSBC	985	− 9	3.5	12.9
990	578	HSBC 10p	973	− 6½	3.6	12.7
388	228	Irish Perm	388	+ 10	3.1	9.0
483	353	Joseph (L)	483	...	5.1	25.6
145	85	King Shaxson	137	...	8.2	10.6
895	530	Lloyds	885	+ 3	3.8	13.7
592	479	Nat Aust Bk	578	− 5	6.9	...
697	454	Nat West	689	− 3	4.2	10.4
3900	2150	Ottoman Bank	2500	...	6.5	3.4
67	44	Rea Brothers	45	...	2.8	18.9
619	373½	Ryl Bk Scot	559	− 13	3.7	12.4
1470	806¼	Schroders	1335	− 3	1.3	19.8
1180	823¼	Schroders N/V	1130	...	1.6	16.2
111	81	Singer & Fried	110	...	4.2	11.4
625	246	Stand Chart	588	− 16	1.9	14.8
417	217	TSB	416	...	3.4	14.6
121	70	Union	105	− 1	3.6	...
£145¼	9043¼	Wells Fargo	£140¾	− 131¼	2.1	...
270	211	Westpac	265¾	+ 1	5.1	...
295	208	Woolwich	268	...	5.3	15.3

BREWERIES

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

BUILDING MATERIALS

BUSINESS SERVICES

CHEMICALS

DISTRIBUTORS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
107½	89¼	ABI Leisr	94	...	5.8	9.7
505	475	Arlen & Harvey	478	− 2	5.1	6.3
21	13	Alexanders	17½	...	6.6	22.2
113	88	Applyard	91	...	8.2	9.8
6¼	3¼	Ass Br Eng	3½	...	2.1	28.5
623	518	BSS Group	565	− 5	4.5	15.7
39	31	[illegible]	38	...	...	...
24½	15½	Bearing Power	17½	...	9.6	...
28	18	Boyd 'A'	26	...	3.4	9.2
483	345	[illegible]	434	− 1	3.9	16.7
21	10½	[illegible]	17	...	1.5	...
86	78	[illegible]	81	...	4.9	12.3
270	215	Caffyns	253	...	5.8	17.1
86	54	Central Mtr	68	+ 1	5.1	18.5
60	35	Cook (DC)	39	...	3.2	8.6
320½	220	Cowie	290¼	+ 5½	4.1	12.6
155	125	[illegible]	128	...	7.0	10.6
588	503	[illegible]	504	...	1.9	11.1
501	309	Diploma	399	...	4.5	...
345	[illegible]	Electrocomponents	343	+ 4	2.2	23.3
247	153	[illegible]	232	...	2.3	16.0
235	64	Eurodollar	74	...	13.5	4.3
120	87	European Mtr	99	+ 1	6.7	8.3
443	288	Evans Halshaw	284	− 2	6.8	8.8
695	512	Farnell Elect	692½	+ 2½	1.8	20.1
72	48	[illegible]	69	...	6.2	10.8
24½	15	Gardiner	18½	...	5.5	8.7
36½	16	[illegible]	33½	− 2	1.1	...
108	61	Gowrings	86	...	3.8	14.3
194	148	Harris (Philip)	194	+ 3	4.8	12.2
201	142	Headlam	200	...	2.6	17.5
534	258	[illegible]	489	...	2.5	18.8
137	81	Holders Tech	134	...	5.6	25.5
163	88	ISA Intl	153	− 1	1.3	16.7
439	213	Inchcape	217	− 19	8.6	19.7
66	53	Jacks (Wm)	60	...	1.6	11.4
187	142	Kwik-Fit	181	...	3.2	15.5
358¾	284¼	Lex Service	293	− 1	6.1	15.6
195	148	Lookers	149	...	6.4	8.2
22	9	Malaya Gp	12	+ 1½	5.0	16.2
9¼	5	[illegible]	8½	...	0.7	18.5
71	36	[illegible]	37	...	...	5.2
534	330	[illegible]	487	− 1	1.3	17.1
288	78	Northamber	246	+ 1	0.9	19.7
155	135	PCT	137	...	7.9	9.8
283	225	Pendragon	274	...	3.8	14.3
165	123	Perry Gp	150	− 2	6.4	11.3
145	126	Quicks Group	148	...	5.1	11.9
198	160	[illegible]	185	...	2.7	22.0
9¼	2¼	[illegible]	3	...	...	...
73	48	[illegible]	52½	...	3.0	10.7
8½	2½	Ross Gp	3½	...	...	...
69½	37¼	[illegible]	69¾	+ ½	2.5	20.2
17½	8½	[illegible]	11	...	...	8.2
74½	38	TLS	70	...	3.3	11.9

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

ELECTRICITY

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

ENGINEERING

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

HEALTHCARE

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

LEISURE & HOTELS

MEDIA

MINING

OIL & GAS

OTHER FINANCIAL

PHARMACEUTICALS

PRINTING & PAPER

PROPERTY

RETAILERS, FOOD

RETAILERS, GENERAL

SPIRITS, WINES & CIDERS

SUPPORT SERVICES

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

TEXTILES & APPAREL

TRANSPORT

BRITISH FUNDS

1995 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)						
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 14% 1996	[illegible]	[illegible]	13.88	6.45
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 15¼% 1996	[illegible]	[illegible]	14.73	6.29
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 13¼% 1996	[illegible]	[illegible]	12.86	6.21
[illegible]	[illegible]	Conv 10% 1996	[illegible]	[illegible]	9.86	6.12
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 7% 1997	[illegible]	[illegible]	6.91	6.16
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 13¼% 1997	[illegible]	[illegible]	12.32	6.14
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 10½% 1997	105	[illegible]	10.00	6.18
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8¾% 1997	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.40	6.17
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 15% 1997	[illegible]	[illegible]	13.09	6.22
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 9¾% 1998	[illegible]	[illegible]	9.13	6.28
102	[illegible]	Treas 7¼% 1998	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.11	6.33
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	[illegible]	[illegible]	6.76	6.74
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 14% 1998-01	117	[illegible]	11.97	6.43
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 15½% 1998	[illegible]	[illegible]	12.68	6.44
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 12% 1998	[illegible]	[illegible]	10.48	6.50
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 9½% 1999	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.78	6.52
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 12¼% 1999	[illegible]	[illegible]	10.51	6.58
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 10½% 1999	[illegible]	[illegible]	9.39	6.60
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 6% 1999	[illegible]	[illegible]	6.12	6.60
[illegible]	[illegible]	Conv 10¼% 1999	[illegible]	[illegible]	9.14	6.71
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)						
[illegible]	[illegible]	Conv 9% 2000	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.31	6.72
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8% 2000	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.61	6.77
[illegible]	117	Treas 13% 2000	124	[illegible]	10.46	6.82
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 10% 2001	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.83	6.91
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 7% 2001	[illegible]	[illegible]	6.99	6.96
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 9¾% 2002	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.67	7.12
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8% 2003	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.64	7.17
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 10% 2003	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.60	7.22
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 11½% 2001-04	[illegible]	[illegible]	9.85	7.07
[illegible]	[illegible]	Fund 3½% 1999-04	[illegible]	[illegible]	4.24	6.08
[illegible]	[illegible]	Conv 9½% 2004	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.35	7.35
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 6¾% 2004	95	[illegible]	7.03	7.37
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8½% 2005	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.88	7.37
[illegible]	[illegible]	Conv 9½% 2005	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.34	7.41
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 12½% 2003-05	[illegible]	[illegible]	9.56	7.33
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 7¾% 2006	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.44	7.39
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 7¾% 2006	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.59	7.45
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8% 2002-06	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.70	7.43
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	[illegible]	[illegible]	9.45	7.29
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8½% 2007	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.89	7.49
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 13½% 2004-08	[illegible]	[illegible]	9.79	7.50
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 9% 2008	[illegible]	+1	8.04	7.53
[illegible]	94	Treas 8% 2009	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.74	7.57
LONGS (over 15 years)						
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 6¼% 2010	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.12	7.63
[illegible]	[illegible]	Conv 9% 2011	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.00	7.62
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 9% 2012	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.98	7.62
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 5½% 2008-12	[illegible]	[illegible]	6.66	7.53
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8% 2013	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.71	7.62
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.68	7.63
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8% 2015	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.68	7.59
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 8¾% 2017	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.84	7.64
[illegible]	[illegible]	Exch 12% 2013-17	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.47	7.70
UNDATED						
[illegible]	[illegible]	War Ln 3½%	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.68	..
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas 2½%	[illegible]	[illegible]	8.05	...
[illegible]	[illegible]	Consols 4%	[illegible]	[illegible]	7.95	..
INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:					10%	5%
215½	[illegible]	Treas IL 2% 1996	215½	..	..	1.90
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	[illegible]	..	1.60	2.73
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2001	[illegible]	[illegible]	2.83	3.31
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2003	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.01	3.38
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 4⅝% 2004	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.03	3.37
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2% 2006	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.14	3.40
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2009	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.20	3.43
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2011	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.24	3.44
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2013	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.28	3.46
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2016	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.34	3.51
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2020	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.40	3.54
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2024	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.38	3.51
[illegible]	[illegible]	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.39	3.52

WATER

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
603	443	Anglian	589	− 5	5.7	9.0
366	295	Mid Kent Hldgs	359	..	4.8	9.5
641	457¼	North West▼	589	− 4	5.7	7.5
1175	676	Northumbrian	1167	− 1	3.2	9.1
685	475	Severn Trent	667	− 2	5.7	7.9
2305	1855	South Staffs†	2305	+ 10	3.9	13.4
565	459	South West	496		7.2	6.8
731	517	Southern	663	− 2	4.9	8.5
575	456	Thames	560	− 2	5.9	7.6
800	592¼	Welsh†	711	+ 2	7.4	6.5
108¾	100¼	Welsh Cm Pf	108¾	+ ¼	9.4	
361	256¾	Wessex	337	+ 1	5.2	7.1
677½	472	Yorkshire	621	− 2	5.8	8.0

Source: Finstat

⊙ USM ■ Price at suspension † Ex dividend ‡ Ex scrip ▲ Ex rights issue ▼ Ex all § Ex capital distribution * Figures on report awaited .. No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 index.

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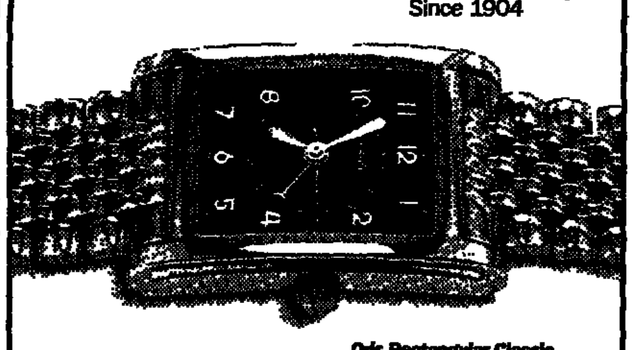

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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
01895 259 783				
Grofund Amer	199.30	210.90†	- 0.10	0.16
Grofund Equity	270.50	287.70	- 1.30	2.92
Grofund Euro	239.20	253.10	- 0.50	1.12
Grofund Expt Bal	124.40	128.90	..	0.80
Grofund Gilt	76.97	79.35	+ 0.31	4.39
Grofund Japan	172.70	182.70†	+ 0.70	..
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
01203 553 231				
General Acc	615.60	654.90	- 0.30	2.60
General Inc	528.80	562.60	- 0.30	2.60
UK Growth Acc	415.80	442.40†	- 0.40	2.82
UK Growth Inc	277.00	294.70†	- 0.20	2.82
Higher Inc Acc	764.50	813.50†	...	4.12
Higher Inc Inc	425.50	452.70†		4.12
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	206.40	218.00	+ 0.68	5.52
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	94.91	100.20	+ 0.22	5.52
Nth America	342.70	364.60†	+ 0.10	...
Europe	317.50	337.80	+ 0.20	0.86
Brit Exped	82.92	88.32†	.	2.95
Brit Fedards Acc	111.60	118.80	+ 0.20	4.71
Brit Fedards Inc	78.13	83.12	+ 0.17	4.71
Global Opps	95.12	101.20†	+ 0.30	0.35
Balanced Acc	60.41	64.27	+ 0.05	2.83
Balanced Inc	57.81	61.57	+ 0.06	2.83
Japan Acc	46.78	49.77	+ 0.26	.
Pac Basin Acc	383.90	408.50†	+ 0.60	1.02
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
Gilts & Fixed Int	132.20	140.30†	+ 0.80	7.13
High Inc Equity	174.70	186.80	- 0.80	4.21
Worldwide Bond	292.80	310.50†	- 0.80	4.51
American Growth	337.70	361.20	- 3.10	0.36
Asian Pacific	313.80	335.60	- 1.80	.
Assets & Earnings	286.00	304.30†	- 1.10	2.85
Euro Capital Acc	160.40	171.50	+ 0.60	0.60
Extra Inc	44.66	47.51	- 0.16	8.46
General	261.10	277.80	- 1.00	3.00
Global Opps	58.77	62.52	+ 0.14	0.48
Japan	123.10	131.70	+ 0.50	.
Managed Inc	47.40	50.43	- 0.07	4.61
Mastertrust	152.60	163.20		1.45
US Emerging Cos	180.90	192.40	- 0.30	
Ethical	74.48	79.21	- 0.02	2.47
International	126.30	134.40	+ 0.20	0.60
Dividend & Growth	65.84	70.04	- 0.24	4.01
Global Grth & Sec	70.51	75.33	+ 0.08	2.68
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	1961.00	2036.00		
ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0800 833 580				
Amer Inc & Growth	56.83	57.99	+ 0.29	0.53
Cash	50.04	50.04†	.	5.84
Emerging Mkts	65.39	69.31	- 0.34	0.05
European	129.10	134.30	+ 0.10	
Exempt	1012.50	1083.30	+ 4.80	1.72
Extra Income #	48.12	51.54†	- 0.02	6.80
Far East Emg Eco	118.70	124.70	- 0.10	0.50
Fixed Interest #	23.48	24.42†	+ 0.05	9.62
Fund Inv Tst	165.40	173.60	+ 0.10	0.98
Japan	185.90	193.30	+ 1.00	.
Latin American	48.01	50.38	- 0.59	0.97
Pacific	80.21	84.32	- 0.05	0.31
Property Share	62.50	65.60	- 0.11	2.67
UK Emerging Cos	69.43	73.52	+ 0.10	1.68
UK Growth	48.90	51.83	- 0.06	2.26
Aber World Port #	78.28	79.74†	- 0.03	2.06
Ethical	72.03	74.91†	+ 0.44	2.35
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	50.74	50.74†	+ 0.03	7.40
For AEGON see Malleson				
AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0171 256 5868				
Resdl Property	97.22	104.20	.	5.10
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD				
01452 305 958				
Amity Income	82.72	87.77	- 0.03	2.34
Income Builder Inc	75.65	80.48†		2.70
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC				
IFA dlg: 01793 610 366 Client dlg: 01793 514 514				
Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	257.90	275.60	- 1.10	2.83
Capital	457.80	489.30	- 1.40	1.69
Balanced	755.70	807.80†	- 1.50	2.46
Accumulator	1436.00	1535.00†	- 4.00	2.64
Income Trusts				
American Income	57.43	61.39	+ 0.44	2.90
High Income	423.20	452.40	- 0.90	3.41
Equity Income	238.60	255.00	- 0.30	3.27
High Yield	257.20	274.90†	- 0.30	3.16
Govt Securities	34.94	36.87	+ 0.25	5.75
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	189.10	202.00	+ 0.30	0.35
European Growth	42.83	45.52	- 0.13	0.01
International	177.80	190.00	+ 0.30	0.17
Japan	203.70	216.90	+ 2.40	0.01
Pacific	398.60	426.10	+ 1.10	0.01
Secs of America	541.20	576.40†	- 2.00	0.40
Wwide Asset Val	52.87	56.51	+ 0.05	0.21
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	571.70	611.10†	- 1.00	2.09
Conv & Gilt	44.80	47.89	+ 0.10	4.84
Smaller Cos	189.60	202.60†	- 0.40	1.10
2nd Smaller Cos	179.60	191.90	- 0.30	1.27
Recovery	150.80	161.30†	- 0.40	1.63
Met Min & Cmy	171.50	183.30†	+ 1.30	0.65
Oseas Earnings	382.70	409.00	- 0.80	1.65
Technology	219.30	234.40†	- 1.80	0.01
UK Special Sits	527.30	557.20†	- 2.70	1.55
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
01293 526 911				
Cntrctd Out Pens	110.40	115.10	.	3.04
Foundtn Persl Pens	66.00	68.66		1.44
BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 600 0033				
Capital	76.59	81.48	+ 0.03	1.78
International	67.81	72.14	+ 0.51	
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD				
0131 222 4242				
America	299.30	322.00	- 0.70	
Bond	121.40	127.70	+ 1.20	6.56
Brit Smlr Cos	110.80	117.90	- 0.40	1.70
Conv & Gen #	68.54	72.91	- 0.04	5.39
Europe	235.90	251.00†	+ 7.40	0.62
Euro Smlr Cos	106.10	113.20†	+ 0.10	1.62
Income Grth	371.10	394.80†	+ 0.60	3.87
Japan	326.80	347.90	+ 2.00	
Latin American	68.70	73.08	- 0.15	
Pacific	106.60	113.40†	- 0.60	1.24
UK Smlr Cos	58.70	62.45	+ 0.16	1.29
Japan Fd	679.90	701.30	- 0.40	.
Mngd Fd	190.90	202.70	+ 0.50	2.94
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD				
0171 489 8673				
Brit & Oseas	336.80	354.50	.	0.81
Capital Grth	119.30	125.60		2.61
Wwide Opps	205.40	216.20		0.93
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD				
0181 534 5544				
Balanced Trusts				
Bist Inv Fd Inc	387.00	403.10†	- 3.10	2.57
European Bd Inc	96.29	98.70	+ 0.17	6.82
Exempt	77.49	82.66†	- 0.37	4.05
Financial	92.45	98.88†	- 0.94	2.45
500	469.90	508.00	- 1.80	2.83
General	296.60	317.50	- 1.70	2.56
Property	237.00	254.30†		6.49
Trustee	209.10	223.10	- 1.20	2.25
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.80	100.80	.	6.05
Extra Income #	127.20	136.00	- 0.60	4.94
Gilt & Fxd Int	58.88	60.83†	+ 0.19	8.18
Income	563.10	602.30	- 3.50	3.81
Income Builder #	68.68	71.10	- 0.18	5.50
Intl Income	68.44	72.81	- 0.35	3.18
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	132.50	141.30	- 0.70	2.22
Leisure	149.20	159.60	- 0.40	1.11
Recovery	443.40	474.20	- 2.90	2.80
Smllr Cos Inc	48.31	51.61	+ 0.08	2.14
Special Sits	338.00	361.50	- 1.80	1.52
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	161.90	172.20†	+ 0.30	0.29
Aust Acc	266.40	284.50	- 1.80	1.88
Aust Inc	160.60	171.60†	- 1.80	1.88
Euro Grwth Inc	167.40	177.70	+ 0.50	0.73
-do- Accum	180.80	191.90	+ 0.60	0.73
Japan & Gen Inc	164.20	173.80	- 0.30	.
-do- Accum	166.00	175.80	- 0.30	
Japan Spec Sits	75.40	79.88	- 0.05	.
Univ Tech Inc	92.40	98.45	- 0.06	.
Worldwide	185.60	197.00	+ 0.20	0.63
BARING FUND MANGERS LTD				
0171 214 1004				
American Growth	117.60	124.40	+ 0.90	.
Amer Smlr Cos	154.20	165.10	+ 0.10	..
Convertibles	55.41	59.33	+ 0.03	5.70
Eastern	285.40	308.40	+ 0.10	0.30
Equity Income	87.72	94.08†	- 0.07	3.80
European Growth	324.50	344.50	+ 0.40	0.80
Europe	268.30	284.80†	- 2.80	0.20
German Growth	79.93	84.78	- 0.68	0.50
Global Bond	68.67	73.23	+ 0.18	6.50
Global Growth	140.50	149.70†	+ 0.70	.
Japan Growth	204.20	217.50	+ 1.30	
Japan Sunrise	152.40	162.30		
Korea Trust	78.04	85.10	+ 0.83	
Portfolio	138.00	147.70	- 0.10	2.30
-do- Accum	257.10	275.20	- 0.10	2.30
UK Growth	87.66	93.93	- 0.08	2.70
UK Smaller Cos	83.49	91.18†	- 0.25	2.50
Select Managers	81.62	87.50	- 0.09	1.00
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 250 3300				
Intl Grth Port Inc	84.91	90.33		.
Special Oppor Inc	58.77	62.52	...	
BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD				
0141 223 6030				
Balanced Growth	124.87	132.13	- 0.98	1.54
-do- Accum	142.87	151.19	- 1.13	1.54
Smaller Cos	122.50	129.63†		0.79
Higher Yield #	51.49	54.48	- 0.21	4.30
American Gth Inc	87.41	92.49	+ 0.14	...
European Growth	148.65	157.30	+ 0.28	0.62
-do- Accum	151.58	160.40	+ 0.29	0.82
Global Bond Inc #	27.64	28.64†	+ 0.01	7.17
Mngd Ptflo Inc	47.44	50.18	- 0.03	1.46
-do- Accum	48.66	51.47	- 0.03	1.46
Int Spec Opps	140.89	149.09	+ 0.14	.
Pacific Grth	135.18	143.05	- 0.69	0.38
UK General #	85.67	90.65	- 0.51	3.17
-do- Accum #	89.23	94.42	- 0.53	3.17
Japan	60.42	63.94	+ 0.32	.
Gilt & Fixed Int #	101.56	105.27†	+ 0.41	8.59
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0171 480 7216				
Short Dated Gilt	67.81	68.67	+ 0.07	6.18
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
0161 837 5060				
Environ	168.70	179.40†	- 0.20	1.80
UK Growth	190.40	202.60	- 0.80	2.05
UK Income	141.80	150.98	- 0.10	4.28
CANADA LIFE MGMT (UK) LTD				
01707 822 100				
Can Gen Dist	218.30	229.30	.	1.73
-do- Income Dist	115.90	122.90†	.	4.07
-do- Accum	364.80	386.70	+ 0.10	4.07
Gilt & Fxd Int	42.32	44.85	+ 0.24	6.08
Growth Units	229.80	245.80	- 1.70	2.83
Bond	178.40	187.90	+ 0.80	6.18
Intl Growth	235.90	250.90	+ 2.20	0.30
North American	234.60	249.90	+ 1.20	0.26
Far East	290.00	310.29	+ 1.90	1.08
UK Smaller Cos	196.00	208.80	- 0.30	1.46
European	89.65	95.35	- 0.35	0.66
Japanese Growth	48.29	51.26	+ 0.19	...
High Income	204.00	218.20	- 1.00	4.01
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD				
0161 831 7433 Enq 0161 831 7433 Dlg 0161 831 7455				
American & Gen	191.50	203.80	+ 1.30	..
European Inc	86.45	91.93	+ 0.08	1.01
Smaller Cos (4-1)	91.88	97.75	- 0.39	1.45
Growth	485.50	518.50	+ 2.40	1.73
Income & Growth #	436.50	464.40	- 0.50	3.90
-do- Accum #	635.80	676.20	- 0.90	3.90
Japan & Gen	70.98	75.30	+ 0.49	
Master Portfolio	£111.20	£114.92†	+ 13.00	2.15
-do- Accum	£134.85	£139.36	+ 15.00	2.15
Special Sits	113.10	120.40	- 0.10	1.84
High Yield	£14.01	£14.45†	- 2.00	4.42

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0171 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	94.15	100.56	+ 0.05	2.54
American Portfolio	112.70	119.50†	+ 0.90	0.94
European Portfolio	110.88	118.40	+ 0.14	0.49
High Income	52.60	62.73†	+ 0.49	8.00
Japanese Portfolio	68.37	72.71	+ 0.09	.
Pacific Portfolio	144.93	155.84†	- 0.53	1.43
UK Inc & Growth	87.05	93.74	- 0.08	3.03
Utility & Bond	57.52	58.21	- 0.05	6.54
CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG				
0171 588 1815				
Inv Fund	721.54	732.44		4.40
Fxd Int Sec	156.56	157.18		9.10
COIF CHARITY FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Investment Inc	721.60	732.80		4.35
Investment Acc	531.78	532.28		
Fixed Int Inc	128.85	128.37	.	8.88
Fixed Int Acc	214.43	215.29		...
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Beckman Intl	93.61	98.76	+ 2.93	3.01
Beck Bio-Tech	39.89	43.06	.	.
Acorn Ethical Tst	161.89	170.00†	..	0.73
City Fin Assets	77.55	81.43		2.05
City Fin America	104.81	110.08	+ 1.35	.
City Fin Intl	87.68	92.07†	+ 1.01	0.89
City Fin Japan	151.54	159.13	+ 9.19	.
Friars Hse Cap	296.07	309.90	...	2.38
Friars Hse Inc	193.21	209.62†	.	4.55
Buckley Wrld Grth	138.58	146.89	- 3.86	..
Fairmnt Cap Gth	142.23	149.72†	..	...
Fairmount Intl	151.24	159.20†	..	.
J Sid Inc/Gth Inc	56.48	59.31		1.97
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	54.36	57.68	- 0.26	.
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0800 373 393				
American Grth	76.99	82.34	+ 0.66	
Dragon Growth	68.41	73.16	+ 0.08	0.92
Equity High Inc	86.69	92.92†	- 0.19	4.12
-do- Accum	121.18	129.89	- 0.28	4.12
Extra Income Inc	26.97	28.35	+ 0.12	7.18
Extra Income Acc	28.09	29.58	+ 0.12	7.18
European Grth	57.33	60.99	+ 0.27	1.12
Evergreen	29.13	31.15	+ 0.24	.
General Equity	94.40	100.16	- 0.06	2.92
Japan Growth	51.98	55.59	+ 0.37	
Pedigree Grth	56.57	60.81	- 0.02	2.81
Ped Sm Cos Inc	33.13	35.24†	+ 0.05	1.56
-do- Accum	34.88	37.11	+ 0.05	1.56
Retirement Inc #	26.80	28.51	- 0.11	5.88
Special Sits	42.64	45.38	- 0.14	2.11
UK & Overseas	55.06	58.57	+ 0.21	0.75
COLONIAL UT MGRS LTD				
01634 898 000				
Capital	74.94	78.06	+ 0.04	1.95
Balanced	65.11	67.82	+ 0.04	4.14
COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MGMT INTL LTD				
0181 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	169.61	180.44	- 0.51	4.85
Fixed & Convertible	40.99	43.61	+ 0.05	6.67
Monthly Inc Plus	49.96	53.15	+ 0.28	8.43
Preference Share	46.22	49.17	- 0.73	7.93
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	129.39	137.65	- 0.15	5.90
Managed Fund	72.94	77.60	- 0.11	3.03
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	43.36	46.13	+ 0.03	1.76
-do- Accum	50.47	53.69	+ 0.04	1.76
UK & General	88.06	93.68	- 0.17	2.73
-do- Accum	113.02	120.23	- 0.22	2.73
UK Growth	166.53	177.16	- 0.24	2.28
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	198.76	211.45	+ 0.83	0.11
Far Eastern Grth	132.84	141.32	+ 0.53	
Global Bond	84.78	90.87	+ 0.06	5.87
Japan Growth	118.83	126.41	+ 0.56	..
North Amer Grth	213.14	226.74	+ 1.33	.
Oriental Growth	80.15	85.27	+ 0.34	0.08
Worldwide Growth	71.78	76.36	+ 0.36	0.10
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	92.25	92.25	+ 0.01	6.17
Homemaker Fund	87.13	92.69	+ 0.08	1.63
Dollar Fund	144.35	153.56	- 0.14	1.98
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Consistent UT	33.16	35.49		3.35
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD				
0800 526 358				
Growth	171.10	182.80†	+ 0.20	1.78
Income	71.18	75.73	- 0.09	5.78
European	65.60	69.79	+ 0.10	0.64
Recovery	166.20	176.90	- 0.20	2.10
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 283 9494				
Equity Dist	306.50	321.80†	.	3.47
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD				
01277 690 370				
Fellowship Tst	93.54	99.51	+ 0.17	1.51
Income #	265.10	282.00	- 0.10	4.24
-do- Accum #	680.00	723.40	- 0.10	4.24
Smaller Cos	199.10	211.80	+ 0.40	0.98
-do- Accum	245.10	260.70	+ 0.50	0.98
Inv Portfolio	90.41	96.18	- 0.23	1.56
High Inc Port #	77.55	82.49	- 0.02	4.32
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD				
0171 410 0177				
Euro Small Cos	1552.30	1603.50†		
Japan Small Cos	1170.40	1193.80†		..
UK Small Cos	1913.30	1992.90		
US Small Cos	1926.10	1966.80†		..
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS				
0171 377 8819				
Disc Inc	218.90	230.50	.	2.93
DUNEDIN UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0131 315 2500				
European Grth	298.70	315.60	+ 0.80	0.67
New Asia	219.70	234.10	- 0.60	0.25
Japan Growth	110.40	117.40	- 0.20	..
Jap Smlr Co	446.00	473.10	- 1.20	
Nth Amer	356.30	377.00	- 0.40	0.78
UK Inc & Gth	231.10	246.60	- 0.20	2.87
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD				
01242 577 555				
UK Balanced Inc	154.80	164.80†	- 0.80	1.63
UK High Inc Inc	163.60	174.00†	- 1.00	4.14
-do- Accum	216.80	230.60†	- 1.40	4.14
UK Pref & F I Inc	59.76	63.37†	+ 0.42	4.95
Environmtl Opps	92.11	97.98	- 0.22	0.96
UK Smlr Cos #	60.94	64.82	- 0.11	0.01
Extra Income Inc	49.15	52.14	+ 0.30	7.80
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0345 090 526				
American	155.60	165.20†	+ 1.80	1.08
Convertibles #	21.25	22.58†	+ 0.02	6.20
Equity Income #	135.10	143.50†	+ 0.20	3.69
EuroFund	52.51	55.71	+ 0.20	0.38
Financial	50.23	53.37	- 0.03	1.41
Growth & Inc #	265.90	282.50	+ 0.20	2.73
High Dist #	168.80	179.40†	.	4.18
International	412.50	438.30	+ 0.20	0.11
Intl Cap Inc	98.57	105.30	+ 0.10	2.61
Latin American	25.90	27.52	- 0.13	
Pacific	81.71	86.82	+ 0.61	.
Pref High Inc	22.04	23.42	+ 0.10	7.05
Tokyo	228.80	242.90	+ 0.60	
UK Smaller Cos	251.90	267.80	- 0.60	1.03
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD				
0171 242 0242				
BRI Director Digs	99.84	106.33	+ 1.23	1.26
Growth Acc	238.02	254.23	+ 6.27	0.58
Income	585.36	621.33	+ 1.82	5.21
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 373 7261				
Endurance Fd	216.20	230.00		1.20
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
01296 431 480				
European	85.88	90.40	- 0.16	1.99
Ethical Tst	46.14	48.57	+ 0.13	1.30
Far Eastern	302.20	318.10	+ 0.62	1.66
High Income	134.78	141.87†	- 0.26	4.80
Intl Growth	124.19	130.73	+ 0.21	0.45
North American	137.62	144.86	+ 0.77	1.46
Pelican	129.33	136.14	- 0.26	3.38
Smaller Cos	66.47	69.97†	- 0.07	3.03
Special Sits	87.92	92.55	+ 0.05	3.21
Tst of Inv Tsts	196.11	206.43	- 0.08	1.28
EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Smaller Cos Inc	199.90	212.66	+ 1.12	1.33
Smaller Cos Acc	353.78	376.36	+ 1.98	1.33
Recovery	49.71	52.88†	+ 0.06	1.52
Recovery Acc	50.89	54.14†	+ 0.08	1.52
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD				
01392 412 144				
Capital Growth	88.87	95.30	+ 0.03	..
Fd of Inv Tsts	48.44	51.67	- 0.05	0.56
High Income #	41.15	44.10	+ 0.05	10.44
Warrant	52.22	56.76	- 0.02	..
Zero Preference	42.08	44.65	..	..
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD				
01273 220 707				
Family Asset Tst	81.72	86.93†	- 0.44	3.28
Family Income Tst	45.12	45.12†	- 0.08	6.58
Family Trust	90.87	96.66†	+ 0.610	2.31
United Charities	266.00	282.90†	+ 7.200	5.11
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD				
Callfree: Private Clients: 0800 414 161				
Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00	.	6.20
Bond Funds				
Gilt & Fxd Int	28.40	28.49	+ 0.08	7.02
Intl Bond	30.44	31.59	..	5.37
Income Funds				
High Income	25.51	26.81†	+ 0.02	5.38
Income Plus	120.39	128.08†	- 0.20	4.14
Amer Eq Inc	58.01	61.47	+ 0.37	1.44
European Income	44.90	47.75	+ 0.03	2.49
Far East Inc	66.62	70.78†	+ 0.40	2.33
Global Convertible	24.67	26.23	+ 0.09	2.66
UK Div Grth	27.78	29.54	- 0.07	2.19
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	63.74	67.99	+ 0.29	..
American	307.80	328.10†	+ 2.60	..
Amer Spec Sits	170.00	181.30	+ 0.50	.
Japan Smaller Cos	36.29	38.71	+ 0.02	.
European	197.50	210.00	+ 1.00	0.85
European Opps	70.16	74.60	+ 0.12	0.15
Global Priv	27.77	29.53	+ 0.08	0.76
UK Growth	106.70	113.50	- 0.20	1.26
Growth & Inc	159.10	169.20	- 0.30	2.76
Intl PEP	43.11	45.84	+ 0.02	1.06
Japan Spec Sits	89.03	94.80	+ 0.21	..
Japan	188.10	200.10	+ 1.40	.
Managed Intl	325.40	345.90	+ 1.40	0.43
Moneybuilder	60.11	63.92	- 0.04	.
Recovery	50.75	53.97	- 0.14	1.43
South E Asia	169.90	180.20	- 0.40	1.08
Special Sits	605.30	643.60	- 4.30	0.72
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Units	112.08	112.08	+ 0.01	6.20
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 814 2700				
Balanced #	142.50	145.40	+ 0.68	2.02
Inc Ptflo #	88.74	90.33†	- 0.25	3.41
Cap Ptflo	154.20	156.60	+ 0.30	1.45
General Opps	133.50	135.20†	+ 0.50	3.43
Growth Inc	34.05	34.80†	+ 0.02	1.34
Private Portfolio	453.60	463.30	+ 2.40	1.84
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT				
Enq 0171 454 1434 Dlg 01277 261 610				
European	122.98	130.40	- 0.20	0.61
Emerg Asian	155.50	166.30	+ 0.90	..
High Income	21.23	22.56†	+ 0.03	9.97
UK Growth	117.40	125.32	- 0.80	2.46
UK Income	106.20	113.40†	- 0.50	4.31
US Smaller Cos	376.20	401.80	+ 1.30	0.38
FOSTER & BRAITHWAITE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD				
0171 407 5966				
-do- Inv Tst Inc	77.68	81.86	+ 0.11	4.16
Investment Trust	98.99	105.14	+ 0.03	...
UK Smaller Cos	92.13	98.68	- 0.24	0.98

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD				
Enq 0171 330 6500 Dealing 0345 775511				
American Growth	73.89	78.88	+ 0.29	..
-do- Accum	73.89	78.88	+ 0.29	..
Asian Smlr Cos	634.90	679.00	+ 3.20	..
-do- Accum	648.80	693.70	+ 3.30	..
Capital Tst	337.00	358.40	- 0.80	1.37
-do- Accum	489.40	520.50	- 1.20	1.37
Cont Smlr Cos	58.98	60.05	+ 0.02	0.63
-do- Accum	60.14	64.31	+ 0.02	0.63
Convertible	133.80	142.10		5.35
-do- Accum	275.50	293.00	- 0.10	5.35
Emerging Markets	63.99	68.36†	- 0.15	
-do- Accum	64.24	68.62	- 0.15	.
European	127.80	135.10	+ 0.20	0.35
-do- Accum	134.10	142.10	+ 0.30	0.35
Extra Income	360.80	383.70	- 0.80	3.87
-do- Accum	554.00	589.20	- 1.20	3.87
Financial	147.50	158.10†	.	0.06
-do- Accum	156.20	167.30†	- 0.10	0.96
Gilt Trust	65.10	67.13	+ 0.47	6.12
-do- Accum	95.87	98.85	+ 0.69	6.12
Health Fund Inc	212.80	227.30†	+ 1.70	...
-do- Accum	212.90	227.30†	+ 1.70	..
Income & Growth	208.60	219.80†	- 0.10	3.50
-do- Accum	322.90	343.50†	- 0.20	3.50
Intl Growth	406.10	433.50†	+ 1.10	.
-do- Accum	450.90	481.40†	+ 1.20	
Japan & Gen	183.80	196.00	+ 0.20	..
-do- Accum	185.80	198.00	+ 0.20	
Monthly Inc #	178.20	189.50†	- 0.10	3.69
Managed Port Inc	113.70	119.70		2.01
-do- Accum	122.10	128.50	..	2.01
Quarterly Income #	53.15	57.00†	- 0.07	3.88
-do- Accum #	58.92	63.19†	- 0.08	3.88
Recovery	346.60	370.60	+ 0.10	0.12
-do- Accum	409.10	437.40	.	0.12
UK Growth	59.62	63.75	- 0.10	2.50
-do- Accum	63.18	67.57	- 0.10	2.50
FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealing 01705 881330 Enq 01705 881340				
FP American	55.83	59.39†	+ 0.09	0.44
FP Am Smlr Cos	171.20	183.10	+ 0.20	
FP Asian Growth	263.40	281.70†	- 1.70	..
FP Australian	367.80	394.60	- 1.40	.
FP Equity Dist	414.00	440.40†	- 1.90	2.51
-do- Accum	897.70	955.00†	- 4.30	2.51
FP Euro Gth	244.10	259.60	+ 0.90	0.17
-do- Accum	265.20	282.10	+ 0.90	0.17
FP Intl Bond	61.79	65.38	+ 0.05	4.53
FP Intl Gth Dist	35.57	37.96†	+ 0.01	0.47
-do- Accum	51.96	55.45†	+ 0.02	0.47
FP Pac Basin Acc	210.00	224.40†	- 0.10	.
FP Income	54.97	58.63†	- 0.35	3.70
-do- Accum	185.80	198.10	- 1.20	3.70
FP Jap Smlr Cos	306.50	328.90	+ 1.10	
FP Monthly Dist	73.22	78.14†	- 0.20	5.12
FP Stlg Deposit	100.80	100.80	..	6.25
FP Tokyo	82.43	87.92	+ 0.54	.
FP UK Focus	38.82	41.74†	- 0.30	2.83
FP UK Growth	185.50	197.80	- 1.20	2.69
-do- Accum	364.20	388.40	- 2.40	2.69
Stewardship Dist	369.80	393.40†	- 0.10	1.94
-do- Accum	460.40	489.70†	- 0.10	1.94
Stwdshp Inc Dist	74.63	79.39	- 0.01	4.67
-do- Accum	99.36	105.70	..	4.67
N Am Stshp Dist	117.20	124.60	- 0.10	0.92
-do- Accum	125.20	133.10	.	0.92
FP Managed Portfolio Service				
Capital Grth Acc	117.80	125.30†	+ 0.60	1.19
Open Cap Gth Acc	121.40	129.10†	- 0.30	0.07
Cap Gth Inc Inc	113.10	120.30	+ 0.40	2.40
Cap Gth Inc Acc	117.00	124.40	+ 0.30	2.40
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ic	116.30	123.70	- 0.20	3.31
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ac	120.80	128.50	- 0.10	3.31
GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0345 581 106/7				
GANDA	264.70	280.00†	- 1.20	2.20
Cash	49.48	50.22†	+ 0.01	5.30
Growth Portfolio	83.94	89.97	+ 0.11	0.92
Income Portfolio	66.47	70.30†	- 0.23	4.38
GEM DOLPHIN INV MGRS LTD				
0171 296 6441				
Special Sits	208.30	222.80	- 2.30	1.52
Dividend	94.08	100.60	- 0.50	4.74
Intl Gth & Inc	236.80	253.30	- 0.60	3.12
UK & Gen	47.98	51.32	- 0.04	2.55
Fund of Funds	69.83	74.68	+ 0.08	.
GT UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
Inv 0800 212274 Dealing 0171 626 9431				
Amer Spec Sits	228.80	244.50	+ 0.10	
European	606.30	646.90	- 2.50	0.30
Euro Eq & Bd Inc	51.60	54.90	- 0.04	4.95
-do- Accum	56.17	59.75	- 0.05	4.95
Far East & Gen	265.60	284.10†	- 0.20	
Germany	121.70	129.10	- 0.30	..
High Yield #	50.04	52.90†	+ 0.23	8.03
-do- Accum #	52.56	55.58	+ 0.24	8.03
Income Inc	170.70	182.60	- 0.90	4.30
-do- Accum	188.30	201.40	- 1.00	4.30
International	356.80	381.60	- 0.70	..
Intl Income	90.98	96.38†	- 0.34	2.99
Japan & General	439.00	467.70	+ 1.20	.
Korean Securities	68.29	73.04	+ 0.08	.
Orient Acc	141.30	151.20	- 0.90	0.23
Smllr Cos Div Inc	45.23	48.38	+ 0.02	4.17
-do- Accum	49.94	53.42	+ 0.02	4.17
UK Capital Inc	180.60	193.20	- 0.50	1.48
UK Capital Acc	318.40	340.60	- 0.90	1.48
UK Spec Sits	92.88	99.34	- 0.42	1.30
US & General	177.90	188.78	- 0.38	.
Wwide Spec Sits	154.20	165.00	.	..
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS				
0171 782 2000 Dlgs only: 01277 264 421				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	55.91	59.76	+ 0.09	1.74
Cash Trust	141.30	141.30	+ 0.01	6.34
Practical Inv Inc #	119.59	127.90	+ 0.12	2.66
-do- Accum #	280.85	300.16	+ 0.28	2.66
UK Index	188.30	187.14	- 0.20	3.24
UK Smaller Cos	145.99	156.14	- 0.42	0.68
Income Funds				
Extra Yield	24.60	25.49	+ 0.11	7.85
High Income	33.98	36.31†	- 0.04	5.23
UK Equity Income	149.07	159.43	+ 0.06	2.65
Global Bond	31.02	32.14	+ 0.01	5.04
International Funds				
Emerging Markets	43.93	46.98	+ 0.13	.
Global Managed	144.35	153.60	+ 0.36	1.46
Gold & Intl Res	109.55	117.17	+ 1.68	..
Global Utilities	140.83	150.51	- 0.44	1.46
Overseas Funds				
American	181.11	192.80	- 0.17	0.86
European	118.97	128.09	+ 0.12	0.88
Euro Sel Opps	175.73	186.46	+ 0.26	.
Amer Emerging	142.37	152.27†	- 1.37	.
Hong Kong	147.62	158.01	- 1.14	2.08
Japan	249.51	264.81	+ 0.50	.
Pacific Growth	218.81	234.02	+ 0.08	
Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds				
Managed Equity	235.80	235.80	- 0.38	2.08
Long Term Bal	258.75	258.75	- 0.05	3.09
Med Term Bal	217.32	217.32	+ 0.29	3.18
UK Equity	271.43	271.43†	- 0.89	2.48
UK Emerging Cos	155.18	155.18†	+ 0.03	1.99
American	297.78	297.78	+ 1.17	1.08
Japan	130.73	130.73	+ 0.88	
European	307.16	307.16	+ 0.41	1.07
Index Linked Gilt	181.38	181.38†	+ 0.81	2.66
Fixed Interest	172.16	172.16†	+ 1.16	6.40
Amer Emergng	330.52	330.52	- 2.44	
Pacific	242.61	242.61†	- 0.13	0.68
Emerging Mkts	116.79	116.79	- 0.18	0.89
Index Strat Japan	154.30	154.30	+ 0.66	0.19
-do- Pacific Rim	190.83	190.83	- 0.41	1.33
-do- Cont Europe	170.72	170.72	+ 0.41	2.02
Index Strat USA	172.94	172.94	+ 1.25	1.88
Gartmore Personal Pension Funds				
Managed Equity	111.08	118.17	- 0.19	.
Med Term Bal	103.35	109.95	+ 0.15	
Long Term Bal	116.27	123.69	- 0.02	..
UK Equity	125.60	133.62	- 0.44	..
UK Emerging Cos	72.74	77.39	+ 0.02	..
American	138.18	147.00	+ 0.58	..
Japan	62.56	66.55	+ 0.45	
European	127.65	135.80	+ 0.18	..
Fixed Interest	87.51	93.10	+ 0.63	...
Index Linked Gilt	80.57	85.72	+ 0.43	.
Deposit	83.92	89.28	+ 0.01	.
Broker Unit Trusts				
BWH Intl	151.42	159.39	- 0.27	0.53
Brokrf Gth Port Inc	69.03	72.85	- 0.15	0.60
-do- Inc Port Inc	81.26	84.85†	+ 0.91	3.50
-do- Wwide Port	58.78	62.04	- 0.12	0.10
Shaw Utilities	66.20	69.87†	- 0.18	3.15
GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT				
GAM Sterling Management 0171 493 9990				
Stlg & Intl Inc	581.24	618.34		2.38
-do- Accum	646.48	687.72	.	2.38
European Inc	158.87	168.99		1.29
Amalgam Inc	153.82	162.96		..
N America Inc	355.29	377.97		0.80
Far East Inc	366.53	389.93	..	.
-do- Accum	379.61	403.85	..	.
UK Divd Inc	187.60	199.57	- 3.90	3.27
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MGMT LTD				
0171 378 7979 Dealing: 0171 407 7888				
UK Equity Inc	97.48	104.24	- 0.40	4.35
UK Small Cos	58.77	62.85	+ 0.13	0.71
British Growth	65.87	70.43	- 0.05	2.44
American Gwth	250.73	268.15	- 3.50	.
Japan Gwth	66.71	71.34	- 0.34	.
Greater China	178.28	190.57	- 1.59	0.56
Pacific Strategy	155.31	166.10	+ 2.39	0.55
European Gwth	96.57	103.06†	+ 0.04	0.69
Intl Growth	161.68	172.89	- 0.50	.
US Index (£)	17.1030	18.0297	+ 0.2053	4.60
FT-SE Mid 250 Ind	82.58	88.31	- 0.26	2.13
Monthly Income	40.68	43.47†	+ 0.02	8.00
MIS Unit Trust Dealing: 071 865 0093				
Grd UK Index (£)	13.4115	14.1585	- 0.1240	5.50
GRANVILLE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0171 488 1212				
Small Cos	99.43	105.78		1.45
GUARDIAN UT MGRS LTD				
0171 588 9688				
European	527.40	563.40	+ 1.20	0.49
Gilt & Fixed	133.50	141.60	+ 1.20	5.54
Growth Equity	384.30	410.50	- 2.20	1.45
Income Trust	145.70	155.60	- 0.40	3.26
International	200.60	214.30	- 0.10	0.21
Japan Trust	131.60	140.50	+ 0.50	.
Nth American	330.20	352.70	- 1.70	
Pacific	554.40	592.30	- 2.50	0.26
Gcomfdl	581.70	621.40	- 2.40	1.55
GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD				
0171 522 2129				
EMU Trust	107.69	111.79†	+ 0.12	6.35
Global High Inc	103.33	107.28	+ 0.13	5.98
Corporate Bond	106.69	110.75	+ 0.90	6.90
Eqty & Bond Inc	109.90	115.78	+ 0.38	5.06
European Growth	114.11	121.33	+ 0.59	.
Intl PEP Trust	68.51	70.71	+ 0.22	.
Equity Inc	129.37	137.55†	+ 1.40	4.08
-do- Accum	184.08	195.72	+ 1.98	4.08
Recovery	351.70	374.00†	+ 15.60	2.10
-do- Accum	412.20	438.30	+ 18.20	2.10
St Vinc High Inc	128.64	130.56		8.51
UK Emerg Cos	266.50	283.30†	- 0.40	1.94
UK Smlr Cos	383.30	390.10	- 0.60	2.46
Glob Priv Tst	99.76	106.07	+ 1.13	1.33
-do- Accum	101.62	108.05	+ 1.14	1.33
Inc Share Tst	89.27	94.92†	+ 0.19	7.03
HALIFAX UT MGMT LTD				
Dealing: 0171 220 5050				
Growth	29.74	31.53	- 0.04	1.88
Growth Acc	30.11	31.93	- 0.04	1.88
Income	29.10	30.85†	- 0.08	4.40
Income Acc	30.11	31.92	- 0.08	4.40
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 380				
Model Ptflo	223.40	234.90	- 1.10	2.41
Smaller Cos	33.89	36.05	+ 0.02	1.19
HENDERSON TOUCHE REMNANT				

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
International	80.72	85.65	- 0.02	0.07
Ecology	91.61	97.45	- 0.06	1.10
European	143.42	152.57	- 0.44	
Far Eastern	303.50	322.80	+ 2.50	
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealers: 0171 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Bond Income	108.50	103.90	+ 0.20	7.40
Gilt Yield	119.70	128.30†	+ 0.90	6.73

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
MW JOINT INVESTORS LTD				
01620 825867				
Balanced Fd #	1427.40	1441.80†		3.00
Income #	1039.50	1056.30		4.00
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 222 4242				
Maldon General	158.10	162.20	.	3.72
For Manulife see Canada Life				

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Clare Giltrow, Littlejohn Fraser.

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	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Global Income	224.20	238.50†	+ 3.70	3.63
High Yield	146.00	155.30	- 0.10	5.75
-do- Accum	460.70	490.10	- 0.30	5.75
Smllr Cos Div	55.13	58.66†	- 0.04	2.92
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smllr Cos	129.40	137.70	+ 0.80	..
Asian Growth	324.80	345.50	+ 0.60	0.24
-do- Accum	381.70	406.10	+ 0.80	0.24
North American	99.26	105.60	+ 1.00	0.15
European Special	115.60	123.00	.	0.10
European	164.00	174.50†	+ 1.40	0.47
-do- Accum	278.30	330.10†	+ 1.80	0.47
Global Eqty Inc	114.20	121.30	+ 0.30	2.12
Japan	423.80	450.80	+ 2.80	...
Japanese Special	230.60	245.30	+ 0.20	..
Smaller Cos	122.50	130.30†	- 0.10	1.17

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD				
01244 680 066				
M & S Inv Ptflo	168.30	177.10	+ 0.06	2.13
-do- Accum	195.80	206.10	+ 0.06	2.13
UK Sel Ptflo	145.10	152.70†	- 0.13	2.53
-do- Accum	172.50	181.60†	- 0.13	2.53
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD				
01204 384 842				
Managed Tst	72.76	77.41	.	3.70
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0131 479 4646				
Intl Income	78.34	83.16†	- 0.12	4.15
European	92.30	97.88	+ 0.14	1.16
Income #	79.44	84.33†	- 0.09	4.24

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Lottery blueprint for revival

Tony Dawe introduces a two-page report on how the UK's weekly gamble can be encouraged to fund urban renewal

When Virginia Bottomley addresses business leaders in London today, she will steer clear of ministerial platitudes and deliver a speech defending the National Lottery and defining its future role.

Mrs Bottomley, Secretary of State for National Heritage, will praise the benefits the lottery has brought to millions of people in its first year and the £1.22 billion already earmarked for good causes. She will call, however, for more money to go to the local communities most in need and urge industry and commerce to seize the opportunities offered by lottery funding to support projects in the areas in which they operate.

Her forum is the annual meeting of Business in the Community, a charity formed to support economic and social regeneration of communities. Backed by 400 companies, it will want to play its part in carrying out the minister's message.

The scope for business to take up the challenge is underlined by a survey of 160 leading companies, commissioned by the charity and published today, which finds that only one in eight has been involved in applications for lottery funds but most would like to be. The survey, by accountants KPMG, reports that companies have failed to take part because they did not understand the application process or did not realise they had a role to fulfil.

Today's developments follow an announcement yesterday by the Sports Council, one of the five bodies which distribute lottery funds, that it has identified 70 areas of sporting and social deprivation and will welcome applications for projects to help these areas. It will provide almost all the funds.

Mrs Bottomley hopes to see similar policies emerge from the other four bodies, the Arts Council, National Heritage Memorial Fund, National Lotteries Charity Board and the Millennium Commission, responsible for supporting lasting and memorable projects.

The Millennium Commission has made some of the largest awards so far, including £50 million to the Tate Gallery to establish a new national gallery of modern art in London, and £40 million for a facelift to Portsmouth Harbour, which will be celebrated with a New Year's Eve spectacular on December 31, 1999.

Mrs Bottomley has high hopes

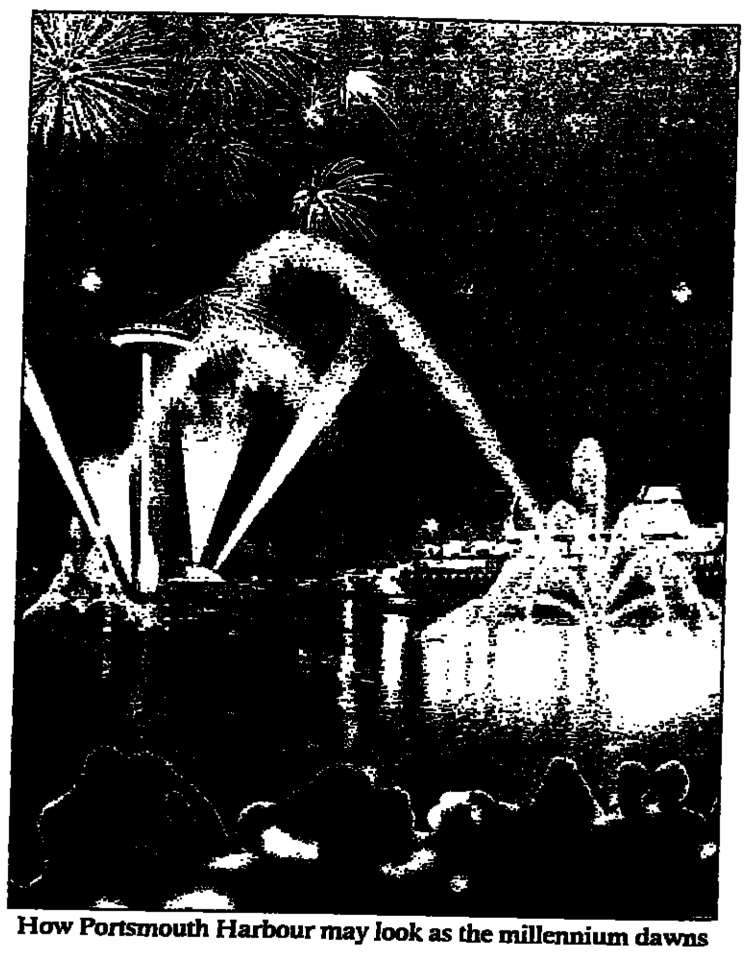
Between them, the five bodies have awarded 2,300 grants from the funds they have received, which amount to 28 per cent of the total receipts from the lottery. Most of the grants have been for less than £100,000 and have been warmly welcomed. A few awards, however, have attracted widespread criticism.

Distributing bodies have been accused of favouring "fat cats and oddballs". The loudest populist voices have been raised against the £85 million awarded to the Royal Opera House and the Sadler's Wells Foundation to redevelop their London theatres. At the other end of the scale, a £100,000 grant to a group working with prostitutes and £183,000 to help counsel traumatised victims of the civil war in Somalia have also been condemned as unsuitable.

The lack of help for needy causes, especially in inner cities, has remained the most persistent criticism and is the one which business is expected to help solve. Business in the Community wholeheartedly supports the recommendation in today's survey that the way forward is through partnerships between the private, public and voluntary sectors.

"Business can offer unique advantages: the expertise to manage projects and the professional skills of accountants, architects and lawyers," says Lucy Grey, a charity official. "One way it can help is by co-ordinating small projects, which might not normally be considered for lottery grants, into joint exercises. If one youth club needed money for a football kit, for example, local businesses might be able to find others and co-ordinate a joint application."

Today's survey is a preliminary to a more detailed one which will seek the views of companies and local councils on the system governing lottery cash bids and awards to good causes. It will investigate the complexity of the bidding process and contacts with the bodies which distribute funds, and is a joint exercise involving the Association of District Councils, the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, Business in Sport and Leisure, the Chief Leisure Officers Association and Business in the Community.



How Portsmouth Harbour may look as the millennium dawns

The secret to finding a winning line

The best argument wins in the contest for lottery funds

Tipsters, statisticians and clairvoyants by the score have all offered advice on how to win the National Lottery. Now the professional classes, including accountants, architects and planners, are queueing up to advise on how to win lottery funds, *Tony Dawe writes.*

With competition for grants becoming increasingly fierce, many organisations have realised they need all the help they can get if their project is to succeed.

Among those offering advice is KPMG, the accountants firm, which has assembled a team of experts in different fields led by "lottery partner" James Froomberg. While he specialises in major schemes worth more than £5 million, his advice on how best to present a project applies to all applications.

The first rule, of course, is to decide which of the five bodies distributing lottery cash will be most interested in your project. Is it arts, sports or heritage? If you represent a charity and your project fits into one of those categories, you might be better off applying to the appropriate body rather than the National Lottery Charities Board, which probably has the most difficult job of all in trying to allocate £300 million-worth of grants to thousands of deserving causes.

Competition for grants from the Millennium Commission, charged with funding lasting and memorable projects, is the toughest of all. It received 1,400 proposals for its first round of funds, invited 550 to make detailed applications and shortlisted 83 before choosing just 27.

Another factor in deciding which body to approach is how much money you will have to raise yourself. The Arts Council will fund up to 75 per cent of projects (90 per cent for very small ones); the Sports Council provides up to 65 per cent but has just announced it will offer 90 per cent or more for projects in deprived inner-city areas; the National Heritage Memorial Fund calls for some unquantified partnership funding, while the Millennium Commission will assist with only half the cost.

Most of these bodies will accept grants from local authorities and European regional development funds as part of your contribution but, if you are a small voluntary organisation, Mr Froomberg advises discussing with the relevant distributing body exactly what might count as a contribution.

"You may be able to persuade them to count the cost of free labour and donations you have received as part of your contribution," he says. "If your project involves replacing an old building, you might be able to count its value as part of your contribution".

When applying, Mr Froomberg advises: "The most important thing for any organisation is to read the application guidelines from cover to cover, time and time again. That will tell you everything you need to know.

"Start by putting a toe in the water with the distributing body, then put in a bid, supporting your claims with some degree of depth."

If the body likes the project, you will need to present it in the most professional manner possible. That can involve large sums of money, so you need to know that it has a good chance of success before you start.

You need to provide detailed drawings, a detailed description of how the project will be funded and a business plan to explain how it will operate when completed.

"One of the most important things a successful bid requires is public support," Mr Froomberg adds. "Distributing bodies are worried about getting things wrong and attracting unnecessary media criticism. At the crudest level, organisations should get up a petition but good public relations and market research will achieve more.

James Froomberg: helps to put the case

"The distributing bodies should be monitoring reaction in the local press, so get organisations like the Rotary Club, chamber of commerce, schools, colleges and the Women's Institute alongside you.

"You must underline the benefit to the community of your project. Will it attract tourists, boost local businesses; help the disadvantaged and unemployed? How many different communities will the project serve and do they really want it?"

Hackney council, in East London, proved the value of this approach when it sought lottery funds from the Sports Council for a new leisure centre. It carried out a feasibility study and developed the plans in partnership with the local community.

Public meetings were held and a questionnaire sent to 5,000 households in the area. Community groups, schools and sports clubs were also consulted to ensure the needs of a diverse community were met. The council duly received £4.8 million towards the project, which will be completed in 1998.

Mr Froomberg also recommends that organisations examine any other financial support available. "There is nothing like a £50 million lottery bid to knock a partnership together," he says.

More subtle advice includes assessing what has already appealed to different distributing bodies and whether gaps exist in their portfolio so they might be seeking a particular type of project.

IMPROVE YOUR CHANCES IN THE LOTTERY.

KPMG can help your company or organisation be a winner in the National Lottery.
The firms' specialist Lottery Advisory Team can help your chances of success by guiding you through the bid strategy and advising on such aspects as corporate structures, funding appraisals, risk assessment and project monitoring, which can all enhance your submission. Clients who have already benefited from our expertise include The National Exhibition Centre, English National Opera, Middleton Botanic Garden - a national botanic garden for Wales and SCRAN 2000 - a Scottish Cultural Resources project.
If you have a potential major lottery bid which you think may qualify for funding, don't leave anything to chance, contact our Lottery Advisory Team on 0171 311 1000.

KPMG means business

Tony Dawe on the policy change that puts inner-city fitness and leisure needs before costly prestige projects

A sporting chance for town and country

Inner-city areas with few sporting facilities are being targeted as potential recipients of funds from the National Lottery in a significant change of policy by the Sports Council, one of the five bodies which distribute lottery cash.

The council announced yesterday that it has identified 70 areas of "sporting and social need" in England and will write to local authorities in these areas, urging them to support applications for funds for sporting projects. It also said it would be prepared to fund 90 per cent of the cost of such schemes and, in exceptional cases, even more.

The council has previously provided up to 65 per cent of the total costs and has reacted to applications instead of seeking them out. Since the lottery began, it has awarded £124 million to 789 schemes involving 41 sports, from angling to weightlifting.

"This announcement marks the first in a series of initiatives by the Sports Council," said Derek Casey, the council's chief executive, yesterday. "We are currently looking at a similar initiative for rural areas and will be announcing this early next year."

The 70 areas have been selected from the Department of the Environment's index of local conditions, together with the council's own knowledge of sporting requirements in England. The list has been chosen carefully so that in the London borough of Camden, for example, only projects in the rundown King's Cross and Somers Town areas will be considered, not those in affluent Highgate and Hampstead.

"We are looking for projects which will genuinely serve needy communities, not white elephants or gin palaces," a council spokesman said. Those most likely to win support are new playing areas where a number of different games such as football, hockey and basketball could be enjoyed, and community sports halls offering the chance to sample several sports.

The council insists that it is not short of applications but is trying to channel its funds in the most deserving direction. "On just one day last week we received applications for £320 million worth of grants," the spokesman said. One in three applications has been successful so far but the council expects the competition to become tougher after its change in policy.

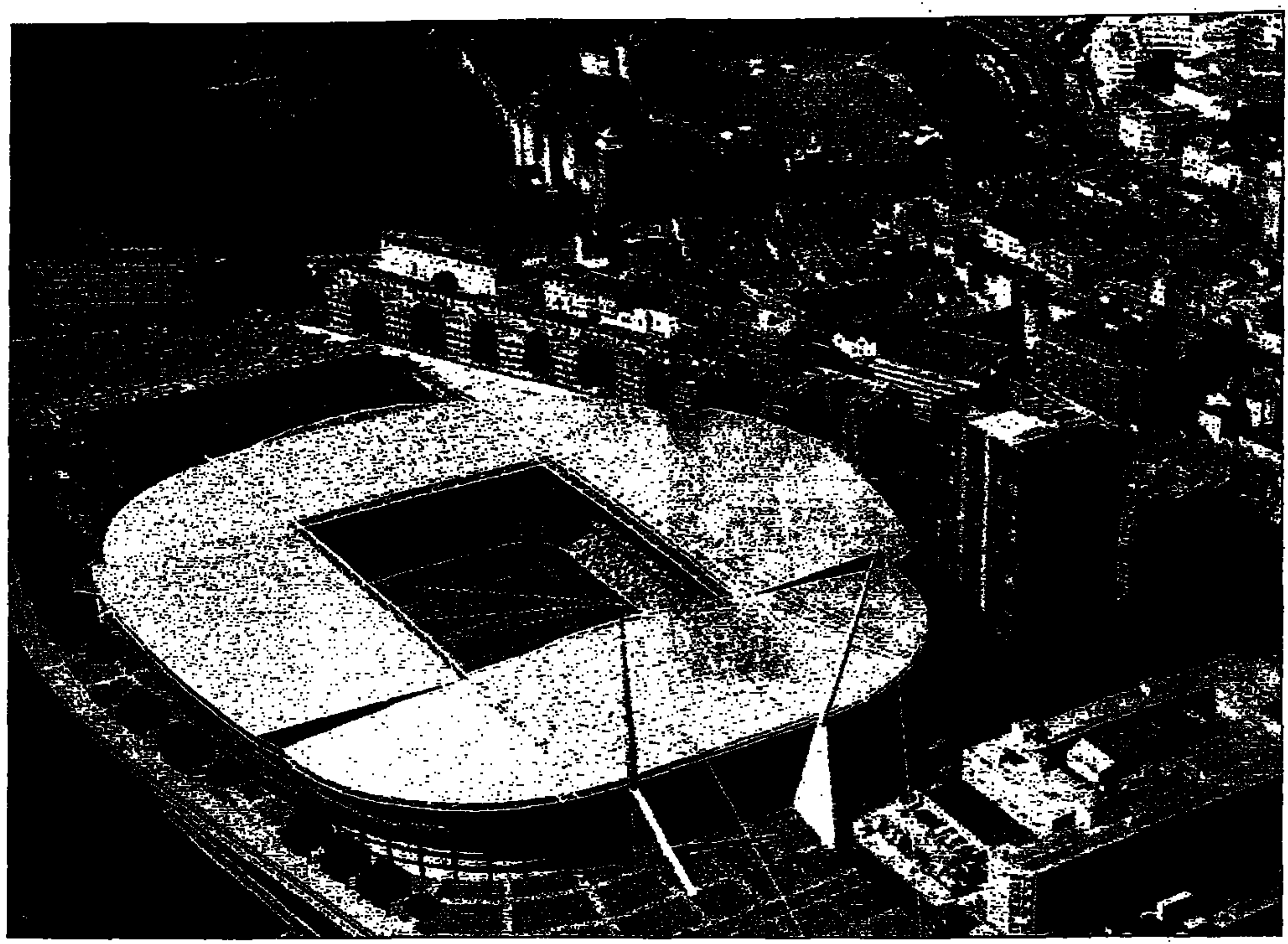
The council has already made major grants to some deprived inner-city areas. In August it awarded £4.8 million to Hackney Council in east London to help it build the Clissold Leisure Centre, which will provide two 25-metre-long swimming pools, a sports hall, a fully equipped gym, squash courts, a health suite with sauna and steam room and a children's "play world".

The centre will replace a mixture of 1930s and 1960s buildings which contain only basic swimming facilities, two community halls and a small gym and health suite. The Sports Council approved the project because it was practical, had great local support and was not an unnecessarily costly "dream scheme".

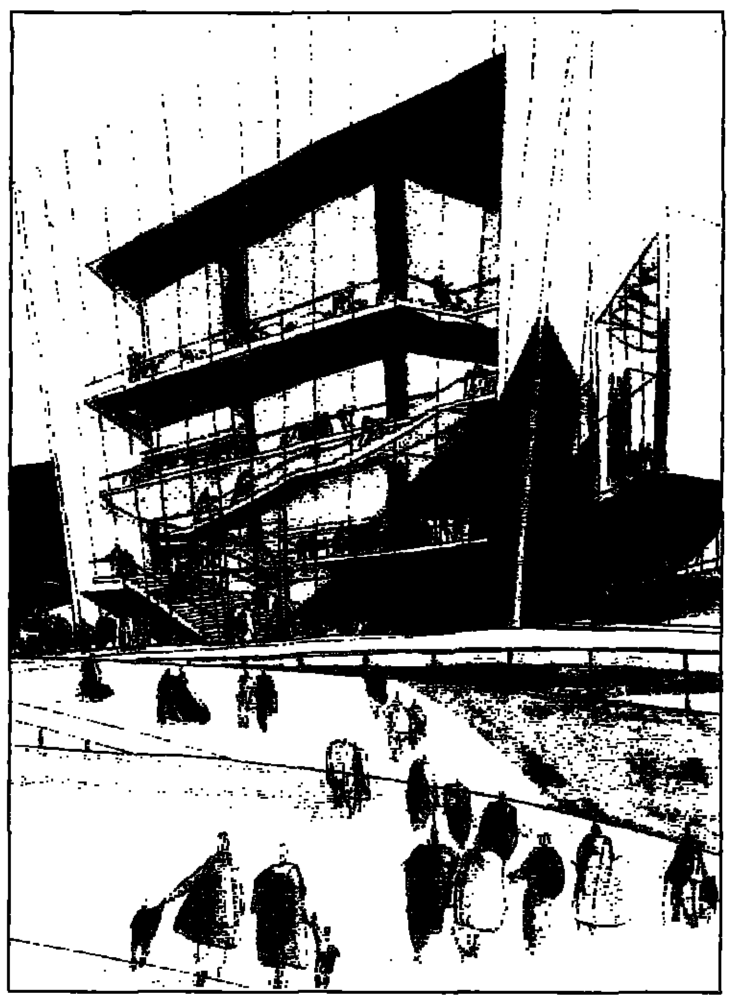
In September the council announced its biggest award, of £5.75 million, to Smiths Park, an imaginative development on derelict land by the River Tyne in Newcastle. The money will help to provide a catalogue of facilities including two full-size artificial pitches for soccer and hockey, four all-weather courts for basketball, netball, five-a-side football and mini hockey, two grass football pitches, refurbished bowling greens and indoor bowls and sports halls.

On a more modest scale, Plaistow, in east London, has received £140,000 to build a new eight-lane athletics track in a local stadium. In addition to seeking inner-city applications, the Sports Council is now finalising the list of rural areas it plans to target. "Country areas provide a different problem because facilities tend to serve a wide area, leaving little pockets of deprivation," the spokesman said.

The council also announced yesterday that it will fund up to 80 per cent instead of 65 per cent of the costs of "dual use" projects which link schools with their communities and local clubs. The new policy will take effect from next April.



An artist's impression of the stadium to replace Cardiff Arms Park and, below, the proposed £50m Welsh National Opera House



Rugby or singing: the Welsh dilemma

Two competing Cardiff projects reveal how the funds can spark off squabbles

A culture clash between the twin passions of sport and singing is raging in Wales. It now threatens to cause the biggest controversy yet about the distribution of lottery funds. *Tony Dawe writes.*

Two ambitious projects are rivals for a multi-million pound grant from the Millennium Commission. The Welsh Rugby Union, in partnership with South Glamorgan County Council, is seeking £46m for a world-class stadium to replace Cardiff Arms Park in time to host the 1999 Rugby World Cup. Meanwhile, the Cardiff Bay Opera House Trust wants £50m for a permanent home for the Welsh National Opera and "an architectural landmark of world stature".

Both meet the criteria for lottery funding: the 75,000-seater stadium, with a retractable roof, would help revitalise a scruffy part of the city centre and the 1,750-seater opera house would be the showpiece of the regenerated docklands.

They also suit the commission's purpose of assisting communities to mark the close of the second millennium and celebrate the start of the third. Both of the proposed projects could conceivably win support. The commission is committed, however, to seeking "a fair geographical distribution of lottery proceeds", and seems certain to select only one, with speculation this week that the opera house will be the victor.

The battle of Cardiff is just one of a number of high-profile conflicts facing the commission, which is chaired by the National Heritage Secretary, Virginia Bottomley. The most public has been the fight between Manchester and Wembley for funds for a new national stadium, while detailed bids are expected this week for a new exhibition centre to mark the millennium — with Birmingham and Greenwich the favourites and Derby and Stratford, east London, also in the running.

Ways and means of money for art's sake

Simon Tait on the trail of that elusive Arts Council grant

By the time it was a year old last month, the National Lottery had brought £250 million of extra funding to the arts in Britain. Not all of that has been given away yet by the Arts Councils of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, and delays are often because worthy bids have not been made properly.

Each of the five agencies for the "good causes" to benefit from the lottery has its own guidelines which are not always precise, and applicants often have to be talked through their bids.

The latest allocations from the Arts Council of England (ACE), which gets more than 80 per cent of the arts money, were worth just over £25 million and showed the diversity of applications, with grants ranging from £7,220 to enable Presteigne Folk and Jazz Association to buy new instruments, to £1 million to make a television film about the Oxford University Boat Race "mutiny" of 1987, and almost £6 million for a glass centre in Sunderland.

One of the first major arts projects to benefit was the Cardiff Old Library redevelopment, converting the Victorian building next to St David's Hall in The Hayes into a visual arts centre. It is something of an object lesson in how to work the lottery.

The scheme has been given £2 million of lottery money, completing its funding trawl for the full £6.2 million costs. Built more than a century ago, the former library will reopen in 1997 as Britain's first ever hands-on centre for young people exploring the visual arts. It will include two galleries for major exhibitions, a children's gallery, functions space, workshops, storage, shops, a cafe and a bar/restaurant.

The costs are being made up by individuals, foundations and public bodies including Cardiff City Council, which has committed £3.1 million. Project managers for the scheme have been Adrian Ellis Associates (AEA), who took three years to prepare it.

There has been fastidious preparation and development of plans, and a commitment of revenue was sought and secured early on (from the Welsh Arts Council, separately from the lottery bid).

COME IN NUMBER SEVEN,
YOUR NATIONAL LOTTERY NUMBER IS UP!
Smith

"If there is a moral, it is probably that you can't run an arts project lottery bid on air and goodwill," says Caroline Kay of AEA, which offers its own pointers to potential Arts Council lottery bidders.

The first thing to realise is that a lottery grant does not arrive in the form of one large cheque. Payments from the fund are on invoice, so money needs to be laid out and is then reimbursed. This means there is a substantial backlog of lottery money allocated but not spent.

Applicants should be registered charities or public bodies, or private-sector bodies which can demonstrate a "public good". Individuals may not apply.

"Capital expenditure" includes vehicles and equipment and, exceptionally, endowment funding for maintenance, although there is no precedent for this. Film production is also considered capital.

Partnership funding of at least 25 per cent will be expected. "Gifts in kind" and revenue funding will be counted as partnership, as will grants from the European Regional Development Fund.

Emphasis will be placed on design considerations — there have to be architectural competitions for all projects in which the lottery is contributing more than £1 million. And the quality and innovation of the artistic programme and related educational programmes will be taken into account.

Grants for feasibility work are available, which must include detailed business plans rolling forward to three years after opening. These are encouraged for all contributions of more than £100,000, and required for all projects of more than £1 million.

"Cross-distributor" applications — those to more than one lottery body — will be accepted where there are separate components of the costs which meet the criteria of the various distributors.

"The Arts Council has got it as right as anyone has," says Caroline Kay. "The only trouble is the backlog of grants allocated but not yet delivered. Applicants need to be visionary and able to stand the wait."

Controversial grants dog heritage fund

Simon Tait details the rows and the embarrassments

The National Heritage Memorial Fund has been dogged by controversy since it was chosen to distribute National Lottery funds in the heritage category.

The extra role meant a radical change of gear for the NHMF, originally established in 1980 by Lord St John of Fawsley when he was Arts Minister; but it has made a rocky start.

The NHMF's director, Georgina Nayler, who had been its head for six years, was forced to resign when it emerged that her husband's computer software company had won the contract to supply the NHMF with some of its new equipment. No impropriety was imputed but the potential embarrassment for what had suddenly become a high-profile quango was too great to let the incident pass by.

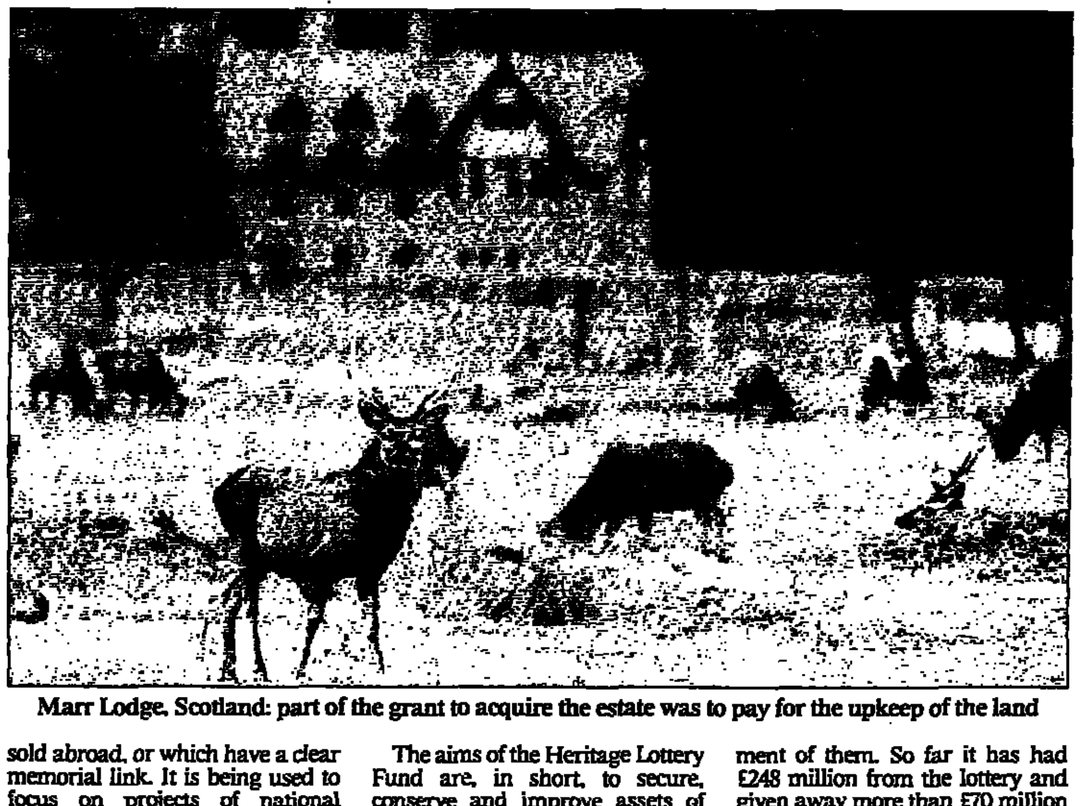
In its first lottery list the NHMF provoked a row when it gave more than £13 million to acquire the Churchill papers for the nation from the Churchill family, an archive which some had assumed already belonged to the nation.

The NHMF still has its ordinary revenue grant from the Department of National Heritage, though this is reducing from £8.8 million this year to £8 million in 1996-97 and £7.5 million in the years after that. The distinction between the sources of income is subtle, and some confusion greeted a recent grant to the Dulwich Picture Gallery which partly illustrates the dividing line.

In September, the gallery received one of the largest grants the NHMF has ever given to establish an endowment. The size, £3 million, made it look like lottery money, but it was not.

It is the kind of grant some say ought to be made from the National Lottery but under current rules cannot be. The gallery had recently acquired a new chairman of trustees, Lord Sainsbury of Preston Candover, and reorganised itself as a charity separate from Dulwich College. The grant could not have come from the Heritage Lottery Fund because endowments from it can only be made to lottery-funded capital projects.

The NHMF has to be a last resort to save items of national heritage importance from being sold abroad, or which have a clear memorial link. It is being used to focus on projects of national monument proportions, whereas the Heritage Lottery Fund has a much broader sweep to take in local and regional heritage.



Marr Lodge, Scotland: part of the grant to acquire the estate was to pay for the upkeep of the land

The aims of the Heritage Lottery Fund are, in short, to secure, conserve and improve assets of importance to the national heritage but including those of local and regional significance, and enhance public access and enjoyment of them. So far it has had £248 million from the lottery and given away more than £70 million in 136 grants.

The Heritage Lottery Fund has been used for making endowments, but strictly within the rules. Part of the Churchill Papers grant was for an endowment to ensure its conservation, and £8 million of the £10 million paid to acquire the Scottish Marr Lodge Estate was to pay for the upkeep of the land.

Applicants have to be public, charitable or non-profit distributing bodies with heritage care as a purpose; individuals are not eligible. The assessors need to be satisfied as to the quality and historical integrity of the work proposed, the relationship to existing strategies, long and medium-term viability, a realistic timetable and management plan, the applicant's need for financial support and the urgency of the project.

Projects of a total cost of less than £10,000 would not normally be considered, and there must be partnership funding. Unlike the Millennium Fund or the Arts Council Lottery Fund, there is no stipulation of how much this should be in the Heritage Fund guidelines, but the range of possible sources is wide and can even include contributions in kind such as voluntary labour or — and this is seen as a key opening which could be enlarged when the lottery guidelines are redrawn — a promise of support for the running costs after the project is completed.

HOW OTHER COUNTRIES RUN LOTTERIES

A nation hooked on El Gordo

ALMOST all profits from the Spanish lottery, the world's oldest and largest, go to the state. *Edward Owen writes.* However, specific draws are nominated in the annual state budget to fund specific causes.

This year the profits from the sales of two numbered ticket draws went to the Red Cross. Two other draws favoured the Association Against Cancer and a third helped to finance the Sierra Nevada World Skiing Championships.

Previous events staged in Spain, such as the World Cup in 1982, the Expo World Fair and the Olympic Games in 1992 have also benefited.

In the twice-weekly numbered ticket lotteries, 70 per cent of receipts are distributed in prizes, 25 per cent goes to the Treasury and five per cent is withheld for administration.

Last year Spaniards staked £6.2 billion on lotteries. Just one draw alone, the special Christmas state lottery on December 22, *El Gordo* (The Fat One), will pay out £854 million in prizes from ticket sales totalling £1,219 million.

This represents a per capita stake of £31.25. By comparison, Camelot says the average spending on the British lottery is £1.34 per capita per week. And *El Gordo* is just one of 104 raffle-style lotteries, drawn twice weekly, in addition to the state-run lotto game (as played in Britain) and the football pools.

Last year, the Red Cross received £6.2 million, cancer research £7.9 million, the football league £2.8 million, the sports' council £20.6 million, the regional governments £30 million, and the state £1.1 billion. Neither the central or regional governments are obliged by law to give to worthy causes from lottery profits. "The only beneficiary is the Treasury," says Fatima Godinez, spokeswoman for the lotteries organisation.

Perhaps the world's best example of a lottery used to benefit the needy is the Once lottery for the blind, which has become one of Spain's largest commercial organisations. Rather poignantly, given its end beneficiaries, its investment portfolio includes shares in a TV station.

This year Once will earn £2.06 billion of which 48 per cent is distributed in prizes. After administrative deductions, the rest is used to help the blind, the partially sighted, and the severely disabled.

An ancient biblical tradition

IN ISRAEL, 55 per cent of the funds raised from lotteries are paid out in prize money. *Ross Dunn writes.*

Only 1.4 per cent of total sales pay for all operating costs and a staff of 120 at Mifal Hapayis, the State Lottery.

Most of the remainder goes to good causes and although the Mifal Hapayis is run under state supervision, not a cent is paid into government coffers.

A board of 13 directors decides one year in advance on which projects the money will be spent. The government can veto any of the proposals, but no government authority or department is allowed to tell the directors which projects should be funded in the first place.

Revenues from the lottery are used to fund schools, kindergartens, science and art community centres, dental clinics, family health clinics, educational, health, and welfare institutions, renovations of Jewish religious study centres, and equipment and furnishings for centres of Bible learning.

The most ambitious and exciting single project funded by the Israel State Lottery will begin soon with the building of 75 arts and science centres adjacent to high schools across the country.

Known as *eshkolot pays*, the project involves spending £500 million over the next three years to build these centres which will provide the facilities and equipment to train young people to become the country's scientists of the future. Students will also be able to learn fine arts and the performing arts including ballet and modern dance.

There is no debate in Israel, even among ultra-orthodox Jews, about whether lotteries should be equated with gambling, which would make them a sinful activity.

"Lotteries are not gambling," says Gideon Gadot, the chairman of Mifal Hapayis.

"Under Jewish religious law, a casino would be outlawed because one is not allowed to throw dice.

"But a lottery is allowed. The original 12 tribes of Israel in Biblical times decided the size of the land in their areas by a lottery.

"And in the temple (of Jerusalem in Biblical times) the work of the priests was decided by a lottery."

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Y DECEMBER 7 1995

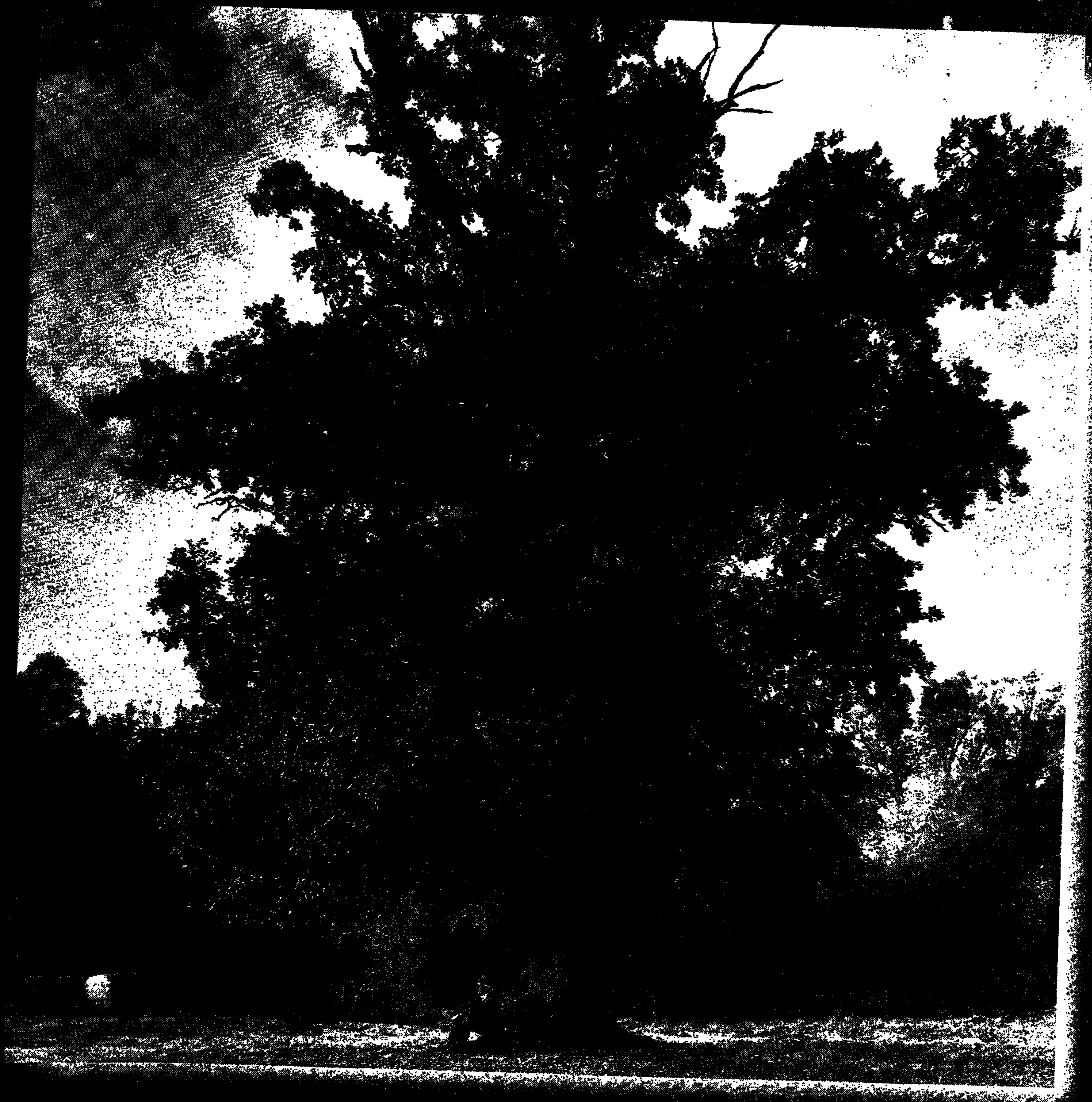
Ways and means of money for art's sake

Simon Tait on the

that elusive

Council grant

It's not just about what you can win; it's also about what you won't lose.



£75.147 of National Lottery funds has been given by the National Heritage Memorial Fund to the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust for Jones's Mill Nature Reserve.

The Wiltshire Wildlife Trust has now purchased land adjoining the reserve to conserve an area of outstanding natural beauty. It's one of thousands of projects, big and small, that will benefit from all the money you're helping to raise. For every pound you spend on The National Lottery or National Lottery Instants, 28p goes to the Good Causes chosen by Parliament. Namely, Sport, Arts, Heritage, Charities and projects to celebrate the Millennium. Over £1 billion has been raised so far, to help people all over the country. Just like those in Wiltshire. So whenever you spend money on The National Lottery, you could be saving something as well.

THE NATIONAL LOTTERY™

Onus of proving prejudice through delay

Slade v Adco Ltd

Before Lord Justice Neill, Lord Justice Auld and Sir Iain Glidewell

[Judgment November 30]

On an application to strike out a claim for want of prosecution, the onus of proving prejudice or a substantial risk to a fair trial rested on the person who asserted it. A mere assertion that the prejudice or risk had been caused by the inordinate or inexcusable delay was not enough.

Furthermore, the individual judge should be left to assess the prejudice, the risk and the adequacy of the evidence in the circumstances of the case and it would be unwise to hamper the exercise of the judge's discretion by strict guidelines.

The Court of Appeal, by a majority, Lord Justice Auld dissenting, so stated dismissing an appeal by the plaintiff, Martin David Slade, from Mr Justice Judge who, on July 15, 1994 upheld an order of a district judge striking out the plaintiff's claim against the defendant, Adco Ltd, for want of prosecution.

The plaintiff's claim was in negligence and for breach of statutory duty arising out of an accident suffered by him at work on November 6, 1987. He was the sole witness of the accident and the defendant's only available witness was the manager, Mr Garlick, who could give evidence of the system of work and of the plaintiff's experience of it.

On May 19, 1994 the defendant applied to dismiss the action for want of prosecution. Only after that, in June 1994 did the plaintiff's solicitors attempt to set down the case for hearing, some four years and eight months after the date by which it should have been set down, and six years after the accident.

Mr Peter Grobel for the plaintiff; Mr John Greenbourne for the defendant.

LORD JUSTICE AULD, dissenting, said that the judge found that the delay had been inordinate and inexcusable and such as to create a substantial risk that, if the trial proceeded, it would not be fair and/or that it would cause serious prejudice to the defendant's defence, both on liability and quantum. He found that the prejudice lay mainly in the likely effect of the long delay on the memories of the plaintiff and Mr Garlick.

The judge's reasoning raised again, and in an acute form, the question as to how the courts should determine the existence of a likelihood of serious prejudice to a defendant where there was no evidence of prejudice other than that of the delay itself. The authorities suggested two different answers.

The first was that the court might infer simply from the length of a delay that it was likely to have dimmed or distorted the memories of witnesses.

The second was that there must be some evidence, other than that of the delay itself, from which a court might draw that inference. The debate also involved a difference of judicial opinion as to whether memory faded earlier or later.

His Lordship agreed with the analysis of the Court of Appeal in *Rowe v Glenister & Sons Ltd* (*The Times* August 7, 1995) which was essentially the same as that of Lord Justice Roch in *Hornagold v Fairclough Building Ltd* ([1993] PIQR 400) and was consistent with the broader statement of Lord Justice Glidewell in that case of the same principle.

It was that there must normally be some evidence from which the likelihood of serious prejudice to the defendant could be inferred. It was important to cling to that principle while the rule in *Birkett v James* ([1978] AC 297) stood, for if it was lost there was no basis, other than one of "feel", for distinguishing between a double presumption of impairment of memory and of consequent serious prejudice merely because of long culpable delay, from a reasoned inference in the particular circumstances of a case that such serious prejudice was likely to result from culpable delay.

In his Lordship's judgment, the judge wrongly inferred from the length of delay without more that the plaintiff's and Mr Garlick's memories were likely to have been impaired by the plaintiff's culpable delay and that it was likely seriously to prejudice the defendant's defence. His Lordship could see no evidential or other basis for such an inference.

The mere identification of the witnesses and of the importance of the evidence that they were to give did not, in his Lordship's view, satisfy the test.

Something more was required, some evidence or circumstances from which it could be inferred that the delay had caused some specific problem for one or both of the witnesses, as distinct from a general impairment of memory from the passage of time, and that it was likely to seriously prejudice the defendant.

It followed that, in his Lordship's view, the present case was not one in which the judge's discretion should remain undisturbed as falling within the proper margins of his discretion. His Lordship would allow the appeal.

LORD JUSTICE GLIDEWELL said that if he was correct as to the proper principle to be applied, the evidence before the judge identified the witness upon whom the defendant wished to rely as to liability, the nature of the issue as to which his evidence was to be called, and the way in which the defendants maintained that they were prejudiced in relation to the assessment of damages.

There was thus, in his Lordship's judgment, evidence which was sufficient to entitle the judge to find severe prejudice to the defendant resulting from the inordinate and inexcusable delay, both in relation to liability and to damages, and that there was a real risk that a fair trial might not be possible.

Therefore, the judge's decision betrayed no error of principle and was one with which the court should not interefere. His Lordship would dismiss the appeal.

LORD JUSTICE NEILL, agreeing with Lord Justice Glidewell, said that the onus of proving prejudice or the impossibility of a fair trial rested on the person who asserted it.

It was clear that in order to establish prejudice it was not enough merely to assert that in the nature of things memories would have dimmed with the passage of time.

There was less certainty, however, as to the precise nature and the degree of particularity of the evidence which the court would require before the onus was discharged.

In reaching a conclusion on that difficult point it was necessary to take into account some other factors:

1 The quality of oral evidence was likely to fall away much more rapidly in the early months and years rather than at a later stage. On the other hand there was great difficulty in attributing a dimming of memory to any particular period of time.

2 Account must also be taken of the fact that delay might create difficulties for a defendant when he sought to test by way of cross-examination the reliability of the plaintiff and his witnesses.

His Lordship had come to the conclusion that it was unwise to try to lay down any strict guidelines for the exercise of the judge's discretion in the individual case. The onus was on the person asserting prejudice or a substantial risk to a fair trial to establish it.

He would have to show that the prejudice or risk had been caused by the inordinate and inexcusable delay since the issue of the writ. A mere assertion was not enough.

But, in his Lordship's view, the individual judge should be left to assess the prejudice and the risk and the adequacy of the evidence in the light of the individual circumstances of the case.

That approach was in accordance with the guidance given by the House of Lords in *Roebuck v Mungovin* ([1994] 2 AC 224).

The writ in the present action was issued on March 10, 1989, more than six years previously. On two occasions it had been necessary for the plaintiff's solicitors to serve a notice of intention to proceed.

Although the case was clearly near the borderline his Lordship considered that there was sufficient material before the judge to entitle him to exercise his discretion in the way he did.

His Lordship would dismiss the appeal.

Solicitors: Winters, Huntingdon; Birkett Westhorp & Long, Ipswich.

Confiscation order on previous drugs profits

Regina v Taylor (Ronald)

Before Lord Taylor of Gosforth, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Kay and Mr Justice Smedley

[Judgment December 1]

A man who had admitted on oath that he had benefited from drug trafficking between 1970 and 1979, failed in an appeal against a 1994 confiscation order under the Drugs Trafficking Offences Act 1986 which included the benefits he had received between 1970 and 1979.

He had been sentenced in 1986 to six years imprisonment for conspiracy to import cannabis, six months consecutive for absconding after arrest, and fined £234,000, which was the amount found in his possession on rearrest.

The Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal of Ronald James Murphy Taylor, now aged 59, convicted on July 7, 1994 at Chelmsford Crown Court (Judge Watling, QC and a jury) by a majority of 10 to 2 of conspiracy to evade fraudulently the prohibition on importing cannabis.

An assessment was made of the value of his proceeds of drug trafficking, and at a hearing before Judge Petre on November 1, 1994 the appellant was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment with a confiscation order of £15,311,729.19 with four years in default to run consecutively.

Section 2 provides: "(5) For the purpose of assessing the value of the defendant's proceeds of drug trafficking in a case where a confiscation order has previously been made against him, the court *shall leave out of account* any of his proceeds of drug trafficking that are shown to the court to have been taken into account in determining the amount to be recovered under that order."

Mr Patrick O'Connor, QC and Mr Nigel Lambert, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr Nigel M. Peters for the Crown.

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, delivering the judgment of the court, said that the trial judge accepted that, between 1990 and 1993, there had been five shipments of cannabis concealed in rubber or mattress fibre.

Successful importations had resulted from three, and the part of the confiscation order attributable to them was £3,740,086, to which there was no challenge. The appeal concerned the balance of £11,571,643, which reflected benefits the appellant had received from earlier drug trafficking.

Between 1970 and 1979 he had dealt extensively in cannabis importations. He had been arrested in 1979 but managed to abscond, was re-arrested and, in June 1986, he pleaded guilty and was sentenced to six years imprisonment for conspiracy to import cannabis and six months for absconding. Found in his possession on his rearrest was £234,000 and he was fined that amount.

The 1986 conviction preceded the Drug Traffic Offences Act 1986 and no assessment of the benefits from his drug trafficking between 1970 and 1979 had been made in respect of the 1986 sentence. No confiscation order was, or could have been, made at that time in respect of *those* benefits and he was *not*, therefore, in jeopardy of having such an order made.

For his own purposes the appellant admitted on oath that he had so benefited and, in effect, boasted of having lived comfortably off the proceeds.

Thereby he afforded proof to a court of benefits deriving from drug trafficking "before or after the commencement of section 1" as set out in section 2(1)(a) of the 1986 Act.

On the present appeal the question at issue was whether the trial judge in 1994 was entitled when making his confiscation order to take into account the earlier benefits.

Section 38(1) provided that "drug trafficking" meant doing or being concerned in doing various specified acts in relation to controlled drugs, whether in England and Wales or elsewhere, and, by contrast, defined "drug trafficking offences" as meaning specified offences set out in a list.

Mr O'Connor principally relied on section 38(4) which provided that references in the 1986 Act to offences included a reference to offences committed before the commencement of section 1, but nothing in the Act imposed any duty or conferred any power on any court in or in connection with proceedings against a person for a drug trafficking offence instituted before the commencement of that section.

Mr O'Connor argued that, by taking the benefits from the 1970 to 1979 into account in making the confiscation order, the trial judge in 1994 was purporting to exercise a power in connection with proceedings against the appellant for a drug trafficking offence instituted before the commencement of section 1 of the Act.

Ingenious though that argument was, their Lordships were quite satisfied that it was misconceived.

The power exercised by the judge was not in connection with proceedings for the earlier drug trafficking offences; it was in connection with drug trafficking. Those terms were separately defined in section 38(1) and were quite distinct.

Mr O'Connor's construction of section 38(4) would be wholly inconsistent with section 2(5).

His Lordship said that section 2(5) of the 1986 Act specifically permitted the court, even where there had been previous proceedings for a drug trafficking offence and a confiscation order had been made, to make a further confiscation order in respect of benefits not covered by the earlier order.

It would make no sense to construe section 38(4) as prohibiting that which section 2(5) specifically allowed. There was no ambiguity in the meaning of section 38(4) and their Lordships were satisfied that it did not operate to prohibit the approach which had been adopted by the judge in the present case.

There being no ambiguity or lack of certainty in the statutory provisions, their Lordships could not accept Mr O'Connor's submission to have regard to European law in interpreting them.

Mr O'Connor's final argument was based on alleged double jeopardy, but the argument was inconsistent with the provisions of section 2(5) of the 1986 Act.

All Mr O'Connor's grounds were rejected. Since there was no dispute about the figures, the challenge to the confiscation order failed and the appeal was dismissed.

Solicitors: Solicitor, Customs and Excise.

Creditor bound by voluntary arrangement

Doorbar v Alltime Securities Ltd

Before Lord Justice Hirst, Lord Justice Peter Gibson and Mr Justice Forbes

[Judgment November 30]

Where a debtor's proposal for a voluntary arrangement was approved by a creditors' meeting, a creditor whose claim against the debtor for future rent liability under a lease had been included in the arrangement was bound by it, although the value put on the claim by the chairman of the meeting had not been agreed by the creditor.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment dismissing an appeal by the creditor, Alltime Securities Ltd, against the reversal by Mr Justice Knox of a decision of a district judge declaring that the arrangement did not affect the liability of the debtor, Mr Richard Leon Doorbar, for the rent.

Miss Amanda Tipples for the creditor; Mr Antony Zacaroli for the debtor.

LORD JUSTICE PETER GIBSON said that on April 3, 1981 the creditor, Alltime, as the landlord, granted a lease of business premises, 342 Eden Park Avenue, Bromley, to Menage Graphic Productions as the tenant for a term of 20 years. The tenant was in fact the debtor by his trade name. Also named as parties to the lease were Mr Doorbar and his then wife, who were called in the lease "the sureties".

Mr Doorbar fell into arrears with his rent and on April 24, 1993 Alltime served a statutory demand on him requiring payment of £7,434 arrears. He did not pay and Alltime presented a bankruptcy petition based on that demand. Mr Doorbar applied under section 253 of the Insolvency Act 1986 for and obtained an interim order on the basis of a proposal for a voluntary arrangement.

By paragraph 12 of the proposal all future liabilities arising under the guarantee on the property owned by Alltime were to be included in the arrangement. It was common ground that the liability to Alltime of Mr Doorbar as tenant for future rent under the lease was covered by that paragraph.

A meeting of creditors was summoned by Mr Doorbar's nominee for September 20, 1993 but adjourned to October 4, 1993. Prior to the adjourned meeting Alltime indicated to the nominee that it objected to the inclusion of paragraph 12.

In an affidavit of November 22, 1993 the nominee said that he indicated to Mr Springall, Alltime's managing director, that he would allow Alltime to vote in relation to the future liabilities restricted to the future rent for the period of one year, but that was not acceptable to Mr Springall, who only voted for Alltime as creditor in respect of arrears of rent and interest thereon in the sum of £32,911.61.

Creditors with 87.34 per cent of the total debts, on the footing that Alltime was a creditor only in the sum of £32,911.61, were in favour of the arrangement.

The effect of the approved arrangement was that if it included the future rent under the lease and Alltime was bound thereby, it could not proceed with its bankruptcy petition to obtain a bankruptcy order against Mr Doorbar and so could not invoke clause 5 of the lease requiring Mrs Doorbar to take a lease for the remainder of the term.

Alltime sought under section 262 of the 1986 Act in Eastbourne County Court, inter alia, a declaration that the arrangement did not include future rent under the lease and did not affect Mr Doorbar's liability for the same.

District Judge Hollis made the order sought, saying that he could not see how a future debt, particularly where the amount was unliquidated, could be included in a voluntary arrangement unless there was agreement between the debtor and the creditor.

Mr Justice Knox allowed Mr Doorbar's appeal, holding that the voluntary arrangement did include the future rent under the lease and that Alltime was bound in respect of the same.

Miss Tipples submitted that Alltime was not bound by the arrangement in relation to the future rent liability because the chairman did not agree with Alltime to put upon that debt the estimated minimum value of one year's rent.

His Lordship said that if Alltime was entitled to vote at the creditors' meeting in respect of the future rent liability owed to it, by virtue of section 262(2)(b) Alltime would be bound by the arrangement.

Whether Alltime was entitled to vote turned on the true construction of rule 5.17(3) of the Insolvency Rules (SI 1986 No 1925):

"A creditor shall not vote in respect of a debt for an unliquidated amount or any debt whose value is not ascertained, except where the chairman agrees to put upon the debt an estimated minimum value for the purpose of entitlement to vote."

Did the word "agrees" therein connote some element of bilateral concurrence between the chairman and the creditor, or an expression of willingness by the chairman?

The former was the conclusion of Mr Justice Ferris in *In re Cranley Mansions* ([1994] 1 WLR 1610). That was a decision on a company voluntary arrangement. As the corresponding rule, rule 1.17(3) of the 1986 Rules, used the same wording as rule 5.17(3) it could not be suggested that the two rules had different meanings.

Mr Justice Knox took a different view of the meaning of rule 5.17(3). He held that on the facts what the chairman did amounted to expressing a willingness to put a minimum value on Alltime's claim, and that therefore the exception in rule 5.17(3) applied.

In his Lordship's view, the context of the crucial words in rule 5.17(3) was that there was a general prohibition on voting by the creditor with an unliquidated or unascertained claim, to which prohibition there was an exception if the chairman agreed.

That agreement significantly was not expressed to be with the creditor or anyone else. It was not an agreement on the value, the chairman only agreed to put on the debt an estimated minimum value. It was sufficient if the chairman expressed his willingness to put, and put an estimated minimum value on the debt. Accordingly, his Lordship would hold that Alltime was bound by the arrangement.

Lord Justice Hirst and Mr Justice Forbes agreed.

Solicitors: Tinklin Springall, Beckenham; Isadore Goldman.

Arbitrator did not show bias

Turner v Stevenage Borough Council

Before Mr Anthony Grabiner, QC

[Judgment November 22]

An arbitrator who, in a failed attempt to secure an interim payment from the parties, had learnt that one party was willing to comply but that the other was not and continued to act as arbitrator, had not created an appearance of bias and thereby misconducted himself pursuant to section 23(1) of the Arbitration Act 1950.

Mr Anthony Grabiner, QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the High Court, so held in a reserved judgment in the Chancery Division dismissing a motion issued by Christopher Alan Turner against Stevenage Borough Council seeking an order that Mr D. W. Clark, the arbitrator appointed in reference to an arbitration between them be removed pursuant to section 23(1) of the Arbitration Act 1950 on the ground that he had misconducted himself.

Mr Mark Warwick for Mr Turner; Miss Joanne Moss for the council.

HIS LORDSHIP said that Mr Clark was appointed as an arbitrator on a rent review between Mr Turner, the tenant, and the council, the landlord, of a lockup shop in Stevenage.

The arbitrator requested payment of an interim account, a sum of £3,231.25 from each party, before proceeding with the arbitration.

The council paid the interim sum but Mr Turner refused. Mr Clark therefore repaid the sum to the council but refused to stand down as arbitrator.

Mr Turner claimed that in those circumstances an appearance of bias had been created; he had lost all confidence in the arbitrator's impartiality and sought an order removing him so that another arbitrator might be appointed.

His Lordship considered *the* Court of Appeal's decision in *K/S Norjarl A/S v Hyundai Heavy Industries Co Ltd* ([1992] 1 QB 863, 885-6, 877A-F, 880D-F and 882A-D).

It was plain from that case that for an arbitrator to request a payment from both parties which was not in terms covered by their contractual arrangement was not in any way improper.

Furthermore, the demand for an interim payment was not, as in *Hyundai*, a brand new element in the relationship, but merely an interim payment at a contractual rate which had already been agreed, and was wholly unobjectionable.

Mr Turner, however, alleged, that when the arbitrator initially cashed the council's cheque it was a unilateral transaction entered into between an arbitrator and one of the parties to the arbitration and was a good example of the type of conduct which was deprecated in *Hyundai*.

His Lordship rejected that argument.

First, on a true construction of the correspondence which passed between the parties it was a proposal made to both parties and not merely to one of them or whichever one agreed to the proposal.

Second, the relevant passages in *Hyundai*, on their true analysis, contemplated a private negotiation or unilateral dealing as between the arbitrator and one of the parties. It followed that an open negotiation as between the arbitrator and both parties was entirely unobjectionable.

His Lordship would characterise what took place as a failed attempt by Mr Clark to negotiate for an interim payment of the fees of himself and his legal adviser with both the other parties to the arbitration. There was nothing secretive or improper about it.

The mere fact that the arbitrator had learnt that one of the parties might be willing to pay his interim account but that the other was not could not amount to misconduct on the part of the arbitrator.

Nor did it provide any foundation for a reasonable or justifiable concern that the arbitrator either would or might be biased in favour of the more generous party and against the less generous one. No reasonable person in the position of Mr Turner would have feared bias in the circumstances.

His Lordship dismissed the application and remitted the case to Mr Clark.

Solicitors: David Barney & Co, Stevenage; Mr Christopher Chapman, Stevenage.

Judicial review better remedy

In re Cawley and Others

Where justices committed a person to custody for failing to pay a fine by a warrant which was defective the appropriate remedy was judicial review rather than habeas corpus.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Simon Brown, Mr Justice Scott Baker and Mr Justice Latham) so held on November 28 in refusing applications by Bridget Cawley, Nicola Ryan and Joanne Healey for writs of habeas corpus to release them from committal to custody by Oldham Justices, Torquay Justices and Bolton Justices respectively.

LORD JUSTICE SIMON BROWN said that young offenders, in particular, ought not to be locked up for non-payment of fines unless no sensible alternative presented itself but habeas corpus had no useful role to play in reviewing such decisions.

In judicial review the court had wider powers of disposal. Furthermore, in judicial review the challenge was directed where it should be, at the justices, rather than at the prison authorities whose involvement was, in truth, immaterial.

No appeal through counsel's mistake

Regina v Satpal Ram

Before Lord Justice Beldam, Mr Justice Scott Baker and Mr Justice Stuart-White

[Judgment November 24]

The criminal legal process should not be prolonged on the ground that a defendant's case might have stood a greater chance of success if advanced on a different footing. An appellant would not succeed where his case was that counsel who had acted reasonably had made a mistake.

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, so held in dismissing the appeal of Satpal Ram against his conviction at Birmingham Crown Court on June 10, 1987 for the murder of Clarke Edward Pearce.

Satpal Ram's counsel at his trial had advised him to base his defence on provocation when a defence of self defence was conceivable as an alternative. A case of provocation was presented by counsel to the court.

Mr Ian MacDonald, QC and Mr Lalith De Kauwe, neither of whom appeared below, for the appellant; Mr Anthony Barker, QC, for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE BELDAM, giving the judgment of the court, said that the appellant had failed to persuade their Lordships that he had been deprived of a viable ground of defence by the advice of his leading counsel.

It was easy, as Lucretius had observed, to stand on the safety of the shore and pass judgment on the work of those battling against the wind and waves in a high sea. It was perhaps even easier six and a half years later.

There seemed to be an increasing tendency to believe that it was only necessary to assert the fault of trial counsel to sustain an argument that the conviction was unsafe or unsatisfactory.

Whether that was due to a mistaken interpretation of the observations on that subject by the 1993 report of the Royal Commission on Criminal Justice, chaired by Viscount Runciman of Doxford, (Cm 2263), their Lordships did not know but they did see far reaching implications in the commission's suggestion at chapter 9, paragraph 59, that even a reasonable decision of counsel could be the cause of a miscarriage of justice.

The court could not countenance a case in which the defendant was serving a prison sentence for no other reason than a mistake on counsel's part but equally, where counsel's judgment had been reasonable, there was a strong public interest that the legal process should not be indefinitely prolonged on the ground, for example, that a defendant's case advanced within a different framework might have stood a greater chance of success.

The advantages claimed for the adversarial system of justice of necessity depended greatly on the skill and judgment of trial counsel.

Solicitors: J. M. Wilson, Birmingham; Crown Prosecution Service, Birmingham.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

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LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE MATTER OF
MARILYN MILLAN (KOSHER CATERERS) LIMITED
AND
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at a meeting of the creditors of the above named company convened under the provisions of S 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, and held on 29 November 1995, I, Melvyn Julian Carter, of Carter Backer Winter, Hill House, Highgate Hill, London, N19 5UU was duly appointed Liquidator of the company.
M J Carter, Liquidator
Dated this thirtieth day of November 1995

IN THE MATTER OF
BROADWAY SCHOOL MEALS LTD
AND
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at a meeting of the creditors of the above named company convened under the provisions of S.98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, and held on 29 November 1995, I, Melvyn Julian Carter, of Carter Backer Winter, Hill House, Highgate Hill, London, N19 5UU was duly appointed Liquidator of the company
M J Carter, Liquidator
Dated this thirtieth day of November 1995

IN THE MATTER OF
CADOGAN & SLOANE SECURITIES LIMITED
AND
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at a meeting of the creditors of the above named company convened under the provisions of S.98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, and held on 30 November 1995, I, Melvyn Julian Carter, of Carter Backer Winter, Hill House, Highgate Hill, London, N19 5UU was duly appointed Liquidator of the company.
M J Carter, Liquidator
Dated this thirtieth day of November 1995

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
AMITA AFFILIATES LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of creditors of the above company will be held at NUT Hamilton House, Mabledon Place, London WC1H 9BD on 15 December 1995 at 12.00 noon for the purposes provided for in Sections 100 and 101 of the Act.

Information concerning the company or its affairs will be available free of charge from the offices of FFA Wessely, a licensed insolvency practitioner, of Grant Thornton, Grant Thornton House, Melton Street, Euston Square, London NW1 2EP during the period up to the meeting of creditors.
DATED 1st December 1995
D Sarda, Director.

MAHILL AIR TECHNOLOGY LIMITED (IN ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERSHIP)
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

A meeting of the creditors of Mahill Air Technology Limited is to be held at No1 London Bridge London SE1 9QL on 21 December 1995 at 10.00 am under the provisions of Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986. The purpose of this meeting is to receive the report of the receivers and if the creditors wish to do so, to appoint a committee of creditors.

Creditors who have not received notice of the meeting and wish to attend should contact the receivers' office (telephone number 0171 939 4304) and ask for Ashley Miller.

Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented at the meeting.
M D Gercke
Joint Administrative Receiver
5 December 1995

AKZO NOBEL (1986) LIMITED
(FORMERLY AKZO NOBEL (UK) LIMITED)
In Members' Voluntary Liquidation
Company Number: 1231418

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Rules 4.182A and 11.2 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that the Liquidator of the above-named Company intends to make a distribution to creditors. Creditors are required to submit full details of their claims and their names and addresses to the Liquidator, Roger Smith, KPMG, PO Box 730, 20 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4PP on or before Friday 5 January 1996 which is the last day for proving claims. Notice is also given that the Liquidator proposes to make final distributions and that such distributions will be made without regard to any claims not made by the date mentioned.
Note: The Company is able to pay all its known creditors in full.
Dated 28 November 1995
R Smith
Liquidator

To. Michael A Grant & Co late of 122 Kingsland High Street, London E8 2NF

TAKE NOTICE that an action has been commenced against you in the High Court of Justice, Chancery Division, Leeds District Registry, 1995-H-No 422 by Halifax Building Society of Trinity House, Trinity Road, Halifax HX1 2RG in which the Plaintiff's claim is for damages for loss and damage suffered as a result of breach of contract and/or negligence and/or breach of duty and/or breach of warranty and/or breach of trust and interest.

And that it has been ordered that service of the Writ in the said action on you be effected by this advertisement.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that you must within 14 days from the publication of this advertisement inclusive of the day of publication, acknowledge service of the said Writ of Summons by completing a prescribed form of Acknowledgment of Service which may be obtained on request from the solicitors whose name and address appear below, otherwise Judgement may be entered against you.
Booth & Co. of Sovereign House, South Parade, Leeds LS1 1HQ
Ref AEM
Dated the 5th day of December 1995

SID'S SONGS LTD

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 48(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Unsecured Creditors of the above-named company will be held at: Clareville House, 26-27 Oxendon Street, London SW1Y 4EP on 21 December 1995 at 12 noon for the purposes of having laid before it a copy of the Report prepared by the Administrative Receivers under Section 48 of the said Act. The Meeting may, if it thinks fit, establish a Committee to exercise the functions conferred on Creditors' Committee by or under the Act.

A proxy form is enclosed. Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented at the Meeting. Other creditors are only entitled to vote if:

(a) they have delivered to me at the address shown below, no later than noon on 20 December 1995, written details of the debts they claim to be due to them from the company, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of Rule 3.11 of the Insolvency Rules 1986; and

(b) there has been lodged with me any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his or her behalf.
Dated this 5.12.1995
N.H. O'Reilly,
Joint Administrative Receiver,
Rothman Pantall & Co, Clareville House, 26-27 Oxendon Street, London SW1Y 4EP

No 3244 of 1995
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
LEEDS DISTRICT REGISTRY
IN THE MATTER OF
TOTAL CONCEPT (FLEXOGRAPHIC) LIMITED
and
IN THE MATTER OF
SECTION 136 OF
THE COMPANIES ACT 1986

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated Friday the 17th November 1995 confirming the reduction of the capital of the above named Company from £100,000 to £60,000 and the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company as altered the several particulars required by the above mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on the 29th day of November 1995.
DATED the 5th day of December 1995
IRWIN MITCHELL Solicitors
Solicitors
for the above named Company.
146 West Street
Sheffield S1 1SW.
Ref POB/SCB

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
Raina Enterprises Limited T/A Raidoot Tandoori Restaurant. Company No: 36601
Vijay Enterprises Limited T/A Raidoot Tandoori Restaurant. Company No. 1614458
Mohini Enterprises Limited T/A Raidoot Tandoori Restaurant. Company No: 2050669

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that meetings of creditors of the above companies will be held at NUT Hamilton House, Mabledon Place, London WC1H 9BD on 15 December 1995 at 10.00 am for the purposes provided for in Sections 100 and 101 of the Act.

Information concerning the companies or their affairs will be available free of charge from the offices of FFA Wessely, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Grant Thornton, Grant Thornton House, Melton Street, Euston Square, London NW1 2EP during the period up to the meetings of creditors.
DATED 1st December 1995
D. SARDA, DIRECTOR

PUBLIC NOTICES

Charity - The Gillespie Trust in connection with The Royal Institution of Great Britain

The Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for this charity. A copy of the draft Scheme can be seen at the offices of Speechly Bircham, Bouverie House, 154 Fleet Street, London, EC4A 2HX (reference DJW) or obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St Alban's House, 57/60 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4QX, quoting reference PC-227938/S-CD(Ldn). Comments or representations can be made within one month from today.

NIGEL ANDERSON notice for divorce proceedings 18/12/95, wife MICHELLE ANDERSON, Western Australia.

PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES

IN PARLIAMENT
SESSION 1995-96

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

Notice is hereby given that application is being made to Parliament by University College London, the Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine (hereinafter referred to as "the School"), the Institute of Neurology and The Institute of Child Health (hereinafter referred to as "the Institutes") for leave to introduce in the present Session a Bill (hereinafter referred to as "the Bill") under the above name or short title for the purposes of which the following is a concise summary:-

1. To unite the School and the Institutes with University College London on a day or days to be appointed and to provide for the dissolution of those bodies.
2. To transfer to University College London all rights, properties and liabilities of the School and the Institutes.
3. To make provision for the saving of agreements, deeds, actions, etc., and for the construction of bequests, etc.
4. To provide for various powers or rights of the School and the Institutes to nominate members of certain bodies to be transferred to University College London.
5. To provide as to the name of the medical school of University College London and to restrict the future use of the names of the Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine, the Institute of Neurology and The Institute of Child Health.
6. To enact provisions incidental to or consequential upon the above mentioned purposes.

On and after the 4th day of December 1995 a copy of the Bill may be inspected and copies thereof may be obtained at the price of 50p each at University College London, Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT, the Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine, Rowland Hill Street, London NW3 2PF, the Institute of Neurology, The National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery, Queen Square, London WC1N 3BG and The Institute of Child Health, 30 Guilford Street, London WC1N 1EH and at the offices of the undersigned Solicitors and Parliamentary Agents.

Objection to the Bill may be made by depositing a Petition against it in either or both Houses of Parliament. The last date for the deposit of such a Petition in the First House will be 30th January 1996 if the Bill originates in the House of Commons or 6th February 1996 if it originates in the House of Lords. Further information may be obtained from the Private Bill Office of the House of Commons, the Office of the Clerk of the Parliaments, House of Lords or the undersigned Solicitors and Parliamentary Agents.

Dated this 30th day of November 1995

REES & FRERES,
1 The Sanctuary,
Westminster,
London SW1P 3JT
Solicitors and Parliamentary Agents

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■ FILM 1

Love springs eternal in the White House, but *The American President* never wakes up

■ FILM 2

Victorians and ants are placed earnestly under the microscope in *Angels and Insects*

THE TIMES ARTS FILMS

■ FILM 3

Unstrung Heroes, Diane Keaton's debut as a director, is a pleasing hymn to eccentricity

■ FILM 4

The Brothers McMullen, feted at Sundance, is a New York Irish story told on the smallest of budgets

Romancing the stonefaced

CINEMA: A dull Michael Douglas in a dated look at love and politics loses the vote of **Geoff Brown**

Michael Douglas used to carry the image of a man permanently on sexual stand-by. Not so now. In last year's *Disclosure*, he declined Demi Moore's invitations 31 times in a single scene. This year, in **The American President**, he acts the perfect gent. He takes things slowly, starting with a civilised offer of "a doughnut, coffee or something". He dances. He sends flowers. Well, he needs to be careful. He is the President, Andrew Shepherd by name, a Bill Clinton without the wobbles, riding high with an approval rating of 63 per cent. He is safely widowed, too, with a graceful young daughter who spends all her spare time learning the trombone.

Carefulness and safety are the watchwords throughout this stately, soporific film. Rob Reiner, the director, and his crew may believe they are treading dangerously by poaching some aspects of Clinton's presidency for fictional use and pushing pet causes such as gun control and the environment. But their film has no more teeth than a baby. It flies on the wings of a romance so decorous, so gentle, that Michael Douglas and Annette Bening, the environmental lobbyist who catches his eye, might be in a movie 50 years old.

The film starts slowly, and rarely picks up much speed. In offices both oval and square, talk tumbles out about poll ratings, Congressional votes and strategy. Then Aaron Sorkin, who also wrote *A Few Good Men*, introduces his leading lady. "I'm trying to savour the Capra-esque quality," Bening's lobbyist says, lingering bright-eyed at the White House security gate.

But the film never aims for the populist sweep of Capra's *Mr Smith Goes to Washington*, or contemporary equivalents such as *Dave*. It settles instead for small ironies and incongruities as the President's romance is hemmed in by the demands of office. He struggles to order flowers from a florist. His political opponent, Richard Dreyfuss, starts character smears on the election trail. Then, just when the lovers kiss in the China Room, the President gets called away to bomb Tripoli. No blitzkrieg, of course: just a few missiles aimed at Intelligence HQ, staffed by a skeleton night shift.

Such political caution saps much of the film's energy. Douglas's performance further drains resources. There is too much presidential pomp, too small a glimpse of the ordinary man within. Bening is charm personified as Sydney Wade; unfortunately, bright eyes, a winning smile, and a strong supporting cast can only take this soft, boring film so far.

Some people appear to be born film-makers: their images flow like wine from a bottle. Then there is someone like Philip Haas, last seen adapting Paul Auster's novel *The Music of Chance*. Watching **Angels and Insects**, the American director's second feature, you must admit the man has brains. But he tries too hard: each word, costume and glimpse of architecture in this Victorian drama is put into place with such calculation that you almost long for Sylvester Stallone to crash through the walls and collapse the heroine's four-poster bed.

Patsy Kensit spends much time there, swathed in cushions, canopies and gauze, conceiving babies for the Alabasters, pillars of the British aristocracy. Her husband (Mark Rylance) comes from a different class: a penniless naturalist, he is given shelter by the lord of the manor. Love appears to flourish between the young couple, although the lady's fecundity suggests extra-mural activity while the naturalist is busy studying ants. Insect society, human society: the parallels are drawn repeatedly.

The story and its intricate ideas come from A.S. Byatt's novella *Morpho Eugenia*, and Haas, bookish fellow, hugs them closely to his chest. The camera may relish the costumes and butterflies, and the Gothic fan vaulting of Arbury Hall, the chosen location, near Nuneaton; but this is a film of words, long words, arranged in formal patterns. You can tell the naturalist's unease by his pauses, and Rylance's dry, awkward delivery only strengthens the feeling of a film fettered by literature.

Eventually passion breaks through Victorian decorum; not so much from Rylance or Kensit, but from Kristin Scott Thomas, cast as one of the family's poor relations. She urges the naturalist to make his mark with a popular book on ant life and, as the drama hots up, shows more colour than you would ever expect from a repressed spinster dressed in black.

But it takes more than the admirable Scott Thomas to make *Angels and Insects* catch fire. Haas's film, handsome and intelligent, is a film that stands still: too arid to glide along like a piece of Merchant Ivory, too blunt and awkward to prise open Victorian England's dark secrets.

For a few moments it looks as though **Unstrung Heroes** will be another warm drama about a boy growing up, shot in nostalgic brown hues. Then the adult characters barge in. True, Andie MacDowell, the kid's mother, is sweet and saintly as she wastes away through a fatal disease. But father (John Turturro) is cut from different cloth. He invents lunatic objects, like an interior tent that descends from the ceiling. "Mom, is dad from another planet?" the boy asks, bemused.

Father's quirks are nothing compared to those of his uncles, who share a rambling apartment crowded with newspapers. Uncle Danny (Michael Richards) suffers from persecution mania and believes Eisenhower is a Nazi (the time is the 1960s). Uncle Arthur (Maury Chaykin) collects society's effluvia: wedding cake decorations, bouncing balls. When his mother's illness starts to bite, the boy, played by Nathan Watt, moves in with them, basking in their kindly glow, and nurturing eccentricities of his own.

And the director of this bitter-sweet tale? Diane Keaton, no less. Most performers who turn directors leap for the mainstream; but by making this her cinema debut after *Heaven*, a curious documentary about the afterlife, Woody Allen's former muse is declaring her independence. She has definite gifts as a director: the visual surface is lively, and the main characters stay in focus no matter how strange their behaviour.

Turturro pushes too hard as the inventor father. The rest play with grace, relishing the good lines in Richard LaGravenese's script, smoothing the way for a film that may never move box-office mountains, but deserves attention for its generous heart and delight in nonconformity.

Three Irish-American brothers thrashing out matters of sex, family and religion as they clutch their beer on the front stoop are not my preferred screen material. They appeal to some: Edward Burns's **The Brothers McMullen** won the Grand Jury Prize at this year's Sundance festival.

Shot on 16mm on the lowest of budgets, the film makes no attempt to please through its looks: even the haircuts are terrible. Characterisation is everything. So is the masculine point of view. The guys, thrown together in working-class New York, spar eloquently enough. But the women who inspire their fear or love lack credibility.

Burns not only writes and directs; he also plays the middle brother, Barry, holding the screen better than some in the cast. The film's modesty and refusal to follow chic fashions earns it some points; not enough, though.

Still, better Burns's corned beef and cabbage than **Dr Jekyll and Ms Hyde**, directed by David Price, which reaches the peak of hilarity when Jekyll wakes up in a nightie and Hyde sprouts a moustache. If Jim Carrey had starred, as planned, this riff on Stevenson's story might have paraded its dim wits with confidence. But Tim Daly lacks Carrey's manic panache. This could be the year's unfunniest comedy.

Michael Douglas and Annette Bening dance towards destiny in *The American President*

The American President
Empire, 15, 113 mins
Over-cautious political romance

Angels and Insects
Curzon Mayfair
18, 117 mins
Stiff words, pretty pictures

Unstrung Heroes
MGM Shaftesbury Ave
PG, 95 mins
Eccentric heartwarmer from Diane Keaton

The Brothers McMullen
Lumiere, 15, 98 mins
Sex, talk and beer with Irish-Americans

Dr Jekyll and Ms Hyde
MGM Haymarket
12, 90 mins
Grim comic update for Stevenson's tale

Wild Bill flies again

David Robinson on a centenary tribute to a film director whose talent was untamed by studio routine

The National Film Theatre is commemorating the centenary of one of Hollywood's most colourful personalities and expansive talents, with its retrospective *William Wellman — The Eternal Rebel*.

Wellman was born in Brookline, Mass on February 29, 1896, and as a teenager shamed his middle-class family by getting probation for stealing a car and dropping out of high school. The nickname "Wild Bill" was earned long before Hollywood days by his aggressive style as a professional hockey-player.

When the First World War broke out in Europe, Wellman rushed to join the French Foreign Legion, an experience which he would recall a quarter of a century later in *Beau Geste* (1939). After America entered the war he became one of the most famous aces of the Escadrille Lafayette, a fighter squadron of the French Air Service made up of young Americans. He was shot down, broke his back and returned to America with the Croix de Guerre, with four palmes d'or, and a mass of injuries which he never allowed to curtail his physical exploits or his hard drinking.

Wellman worked as a salesman, then performed wing-walking stunts in an aerial circus until a (probably contrived) forced landing on Douglas Fairbanks's polo field brought him his first job in pictures, as an actor. He didn't like the experience, and chose instead to work as studio mail boy and prop man until he could progress to directing low-budget Westerns.

These were good enough for Paramount to risk him on *Wings*, a film intended to do for the Air Corps what MGM's epic *The Big Parade* had done for the infantry. Paramount were convinced the film was a disaster, but it proved one of the biggest box-office hits up to that time, and won Hollywood's first Best Picture Oscar. Wellman was not invited either to the premiere or the Oscar ceremony.

For the studios, contract directors, such as Wellman was throughout his career, were simply employee operatives. They were handed ready-made scripts, required to choose their cast and crew from the studio's pool of talent, and expected to deliver the finished product within a fixed time and budget.

Under these circumstances, turning out films at the rate of four or five a year, Wellman made his share of routine programme fillers. At the same time he regularly demonstrated how an instinctive artist, even under these restraints, could make films of real class and authority.

In 1931, for example, assigned a gangster story, he had the inspiration to switch the actors playing the two young hoodlums: James Cagney, taking over the lead from Eddie Woods, was thus launched as a major star; and *The Public Enemy* became the prototype of the great gangster movies.

He turned *Wild Boys of the Road* (1933) into a ferocious exposé of conditions in the Great Depression. The original *A Star is Born* (1937) with Fredric March and Janet Gaynor remains unsurpassed by later remakes.

In a compelling documentary conceived by Wellman's son, William Jr, and scripted and directed by Todd Robinson, a pageant of Hollywood luminaries from Clint Eastwood to Martin Scorsese pay tribute to Wellman's acuity in casting, his unerring directorial skills and his instinctive pictorial sense.

The end of Wellman's Hollywood career was bitter disappointment. The Warner studio seemed ready to give him the chance to fulfil his dream of making a film about the Escadrille Lafayette, to be called *C'est la Guerre*. But when the film was finished, the studio, in Wellman's view, butchered it, imposed a quite inappropriate happy end, and retitled it *Lafayette Escadrille*. Decisive to the last, Wellman announced that he had had enough of movies. Occasionally in the years that followed he would toy with new film ideas, but he never again set foot on a studio stage. He died in 1975, of leukaemia, and instructed that his ashes be scattered from a plane.

● *The William Wellman season continues at the National Film Theatre (0171-928-3232) until December 17*

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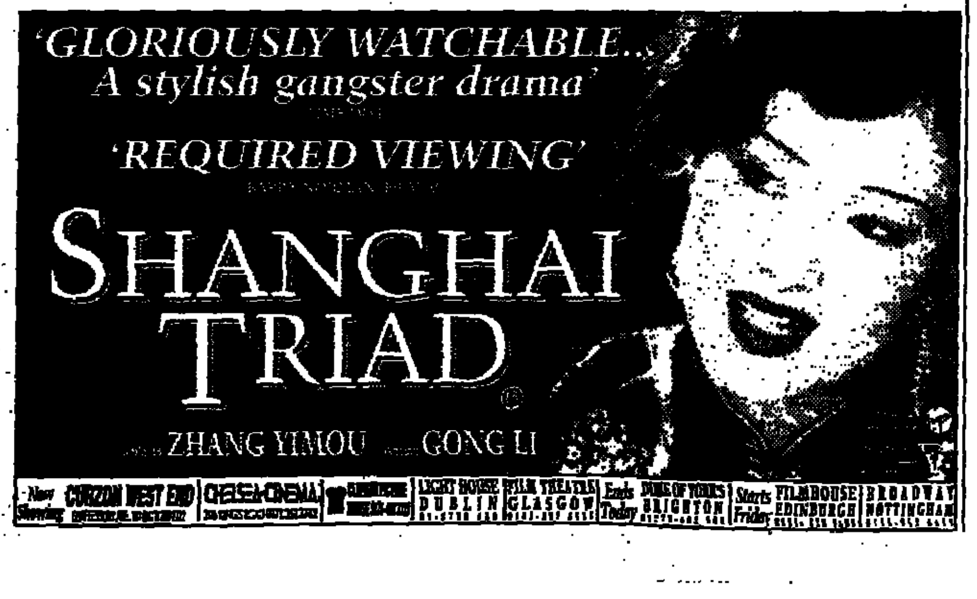

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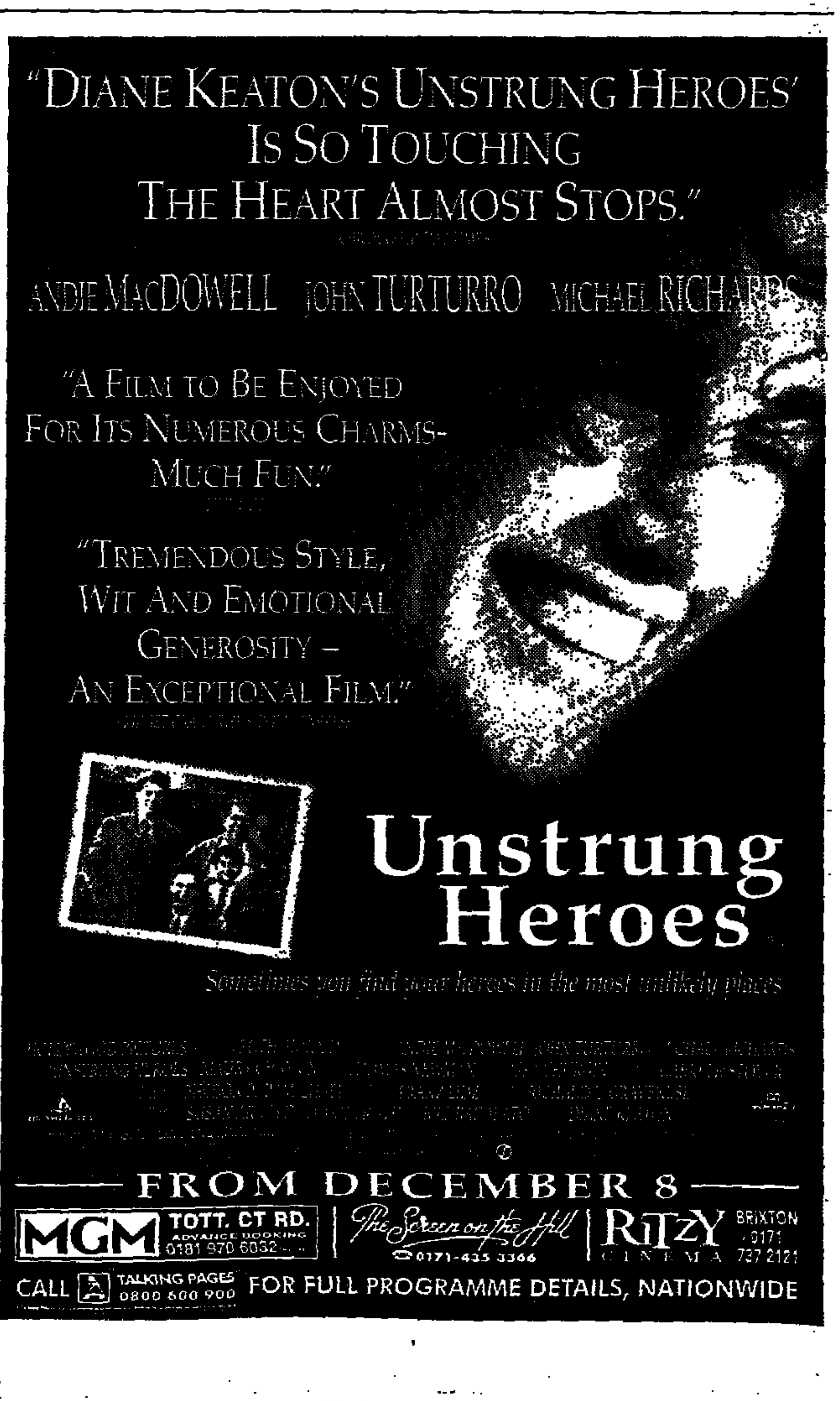

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■ CHOICE 1

Zoe Wanamaker stars as *The Glass Menagerie* comes to the West End

VENUE: In preview at the Comedy Theatre

■ CHOICE 2

Bah, humbug! Clive Francis is back in *A Christmas Carol*

VENUE: Opens tonight at the Barbican Theatre

THE TIMES ARTS

■ CHOICE 3

Dame Kiri Te Kanawa sings her only British concert this year

VENUE: Tonight at the Cardiff Arena

■ YOUNG ARTS

Kids, cameras, action: the Children's Film Unit has big plans but tiny budgets

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

LONDON

THE GLASS MENAGERIE: Zoë Wanamaker, Claire Skinner, and Mark Dexter move Tennessee Williams's elegiac play of false hopes and shattered dreams to the West End. A transfer for Sam Mendes's radiant production from the Donmar; Ben Walden comes in as the new Tom.
Comedy, Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731). Previews tonight-Sat, 7.30pm; opens Dec 11.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL: Opening night for Ian Judge's production, with Clive Francis recreating his bah-humbug Scrooge. Great sets, if oversweet for some.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Tonight, 7pm. Until Jan 13 ♿

20TH CENTURY CHOIR MUSIC: The Netherlands Chamber Choir gives the second of three concerts in this year's Great Choirs of Europe series. Tonight's programme is dedicated to more modern music, with pieces from 1907 through 1990. Uwe Gronostay conducts.
St John's, Smith Square, SW1 (0171-222 1061). Tonight, 7.30pm

ELSEWHERE

CARDIFF: Don't miss what promises to be one of the highlights of the season, when **Dame Kiri Te Kanawa** takes to the stage tonight for her only UK concert appearance this year. Stephen Barlow conducts the English Chamber Orchestra.
International Arena (01222 234500). Tonight, 7.30pm. ♿

GLASGOW AND EDINBURGH: The **BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra** celebrates its 60th anniversary in fine style: *Jerzy Maksymiuk and Martyn* Brabbins share the podium for a programme of Berlioz, Rachmaninov, Elgar, and premieres from Thea Musgrave and Iain Hamilton. Evelyn Glennie and Dmitri Alexeev are the soloists. Over at the Usher Hall, 400 schoolchildren herald the spirit of Christmas with **Carols in aid of Childline**
Royal Concert Hall, Buchanan Street ♿ (0141-227 5511). Live on Radio 3. **Usher Hall**, Lothian Road ♿ (0131-228 1155). Both at 7.30pm.

SOUTHAMPTON: True love, jealousy, revenge and adventure, all rolled into one for **The Count of Monte Cristo.** *Ken Hill adapts Dumas's classic.*
Nuffield, University Road (01703 671771). *Previews tonight-Mon*, 7.30pm; mats Fri and Mon, 1.30pm, Sat, 2.30pm. Opens Dec 12; until Jan 20. ♿

DARLINGTON: Anne Manson, the first woman ever to conduct at the Salzburg Festival, leads tonight's eclectic **Northern Sinfonia** programme of Haydn, Weber, Bartók and Ravel. David Haslam takes over tomorrow in Carlisle for some festive family entertainment of *Peter and the Wolf* and Raymond Briggs's *The Snowman.*
Dolphin Centre ♿ (0500 1325 486555). 7.45pm; Fri, **Carlisle**, Sands Centre ♿ (0800 591 996). 7.30pm

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: Dora Carrington (0171-638 4141) . . . **British Museum:** Westminster Kings and the Medieval Palace of Westminster (0171-636 1555) . . . **Hayward:** Art and Power: Europe under the dictators 1930-1945 (071-928 3144) . . . **National Gallery:** The National Gallery in World War II (0171-747 2885) . . . **National Portrait Gallery:** Richard and Maria Cosway (0171-306 0055) . . . **Royal Academy:** Africa: Art of a Continent (0171-439 7438) . . . **Tate:** Dynasties: Paintings in Tudor and Jacobean England (0171-887 8000) . . . **V & A:** Jain Art from India (0171-938 8500)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
◪ **Some seats available**
☐ **Seats at all prices**

☐ **ACCORDING TO HOYLE:** The tensions of today threaten a group of friends who have played poker together for 13 years. New play commissioned from William Gaminara.
Hampstead, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW3 (0171-722 9301). Previews begin tonight, 8pm. Opens Dec 11, 7pm.

☐ **DEAD FUNNY.** Belinda Lang, Kevin McNally and Sam Kelly in Terry Johnson's sharply funny play about comics and some of their fans.
Savoy, The Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888). Mon-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 8.15pm, mats Wed, 2.30pm and Sat, 5pm ♿

◪ **HANSEL AND GRETEL:** Red Shift and Pop Up create a new version of the story, set in present day Kiev, Kiev in 1946, and the Worm Wood of fairy tales and gingerbread houses.
Lyric, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 (0181-741 2311). Previews, today, 1.30, 7pm; Fri, 1.30pm. Opens Fri, 7pm. ♿

☐ **HYSTERIA.** Henry Goodman plays Freud, with Tim Potter as Salvador Dali, in Terry Johnson's surreal, double award-winner. The funniest serious play in London.
Duke of Yorks, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-836 5122). *Mon-Sat*, 7.30pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 3pm ♿

◪ **AN INSPECTOR CALLS:** Stephen Daldry's powerful production, with Nicholas Woodeson as the all-knowing Inspector, and Edward Peel and Susan Engel as the pillars of society.
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085). *Mon-Fri*, 7.45pm; Sat, 8.15pm; mats Wed, 2.30pm, Sat, 5pm

◪ **JOLSON:** The highs and lows of the singer with with a monster ego. Brian Conley belts out the songs enjoyably and Sally Ann Triplett is an impressive Ruby Keeler.
Victoria Palace, Victoria Street, SW1 (0171-834 1317). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; *mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.* ♿

◪ ***MACK AND MABEL:*** Jerry Herman's musical set in early Hollywood. Fine songs, though a troublesome book. Starring Howard McGillin and a delightful Caroline O'Connor.
Piccadilly, Denman Street, W1 (0171-369 1734). *Mon-Sat, 7.45pm*, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

☐ **THE MASTER BUILDER:** Peter Hall's sexually understated production: Alan Bates the smoldering hero; with Gemma Jones and Victoria Hamilton.
Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm ♿

◪ **MOTHER COURAGE AND HER CHILDREN:** Diana Rigg in title role of Brecht's epic denunciation of war. *Jonathan Kent directs a new version by* David Hare.
National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Tonight-Dec 12, 7.15pm; mat Sat, 2pm. ♿

☐ **TAKING SIDES:** Ronald Harwood's enthralling drama, based on the investigations of conductor Furtwängler's alleged Nazi sympathies. Superb performances by Daniel Massey and Michael Pennington.
Criterion, *Piccadilly Circus*, WC2 (0171-369 1747). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm. Final week.

☐ **THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS:** Jeremy Sinden plays the ebullient Toad in the now annual return of the National Theatre production. Less amazing stage effects here but still delightful.
Old Vic, Waterloo Road, SE1 (0171-928 6655). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; contact box office for mat schedule. ♿

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

◆ **CANDYMAN 2** (18): Feeble adventures of the urban bogeyman created by Clive Barker. With Tony Todd, Kelly Rowan. Director, Bill Condon.
MGM Trocadero ♿ (0171-434 0031) **Plaza** (0171-437 1234) **Warner** ♿ (0171-437 4343)

ELISA (15): Overwrought French tale of a tearaway kid who seeks out her father. With Vanessa Paradis, Gérard Depardieu. Director, Jean Becker.
MGMs: Piccadilly (0171-437 3561) **Swiss Centre** (0171-439 4470)

IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER (15): *Actors struggle to mount Hamlet. Over-manic comedy from Kenneth Branagh, with Michael Maloney, Joan Collins.*
Barbican ♿ (0171-638 8891) **MGMs: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Odeons: Haymarket** (01426 915353) **Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Phoenix** (0181-883 2233) **Richmond** (0181-332 0030) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Watermans** (0181-568 1176)

◆ **MAD LOVE** (12): Shallow tale of runaway lovers, with Drew Barrymore and Chris O'Donnell. Director, Antonia Bird.
Empire (0171-437 1234) **MGM Fulham Road** ♿ (0171-370 2636)

◆ **MURDER IN THE FIRST** (15): Flashy but absorbing Alcatraz drama, with Kevin Bacon, Christian Slater and Gary Oldman. Director, Marc Rocco.
MGMs: Fulham Road (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Odeon Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ♿ (0171-437 4343)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (U): John Ford's wonderful 1946 western about Wyatt Earp, with Henry Fonda, Linda Darnell and Victor Mature.
Renoir (0171-837 8402)

◆ **THE SANTA CLAUSE** (U): Divorced dad becomes the new Santa. Broad family comedy with a human face, featuring Tim Allen.
MGM Chelsea (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0171-792 3332)

SISTER MY SISTER (15): Modest chamber piece about a stifling French household. With Joely Richardson, Jodhi May and Julie Walters. Director, Nancy Meckler.
MGMs: Haymarket (0171-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Rd** (0171-636 6148)

CURRENT

◆ **GOLDENEYE:** (12): Pierce Brosnan twinkles as the new James Bond: a rip-roaring thriller with a sense of humour.
Barbican ♿ (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **MGMs: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Notting Hill Coronet** ♿ (0171-727 6705) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Leicester Square** (01426 915683) **Marble Arch** (01426 914501) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0171-792 3332)

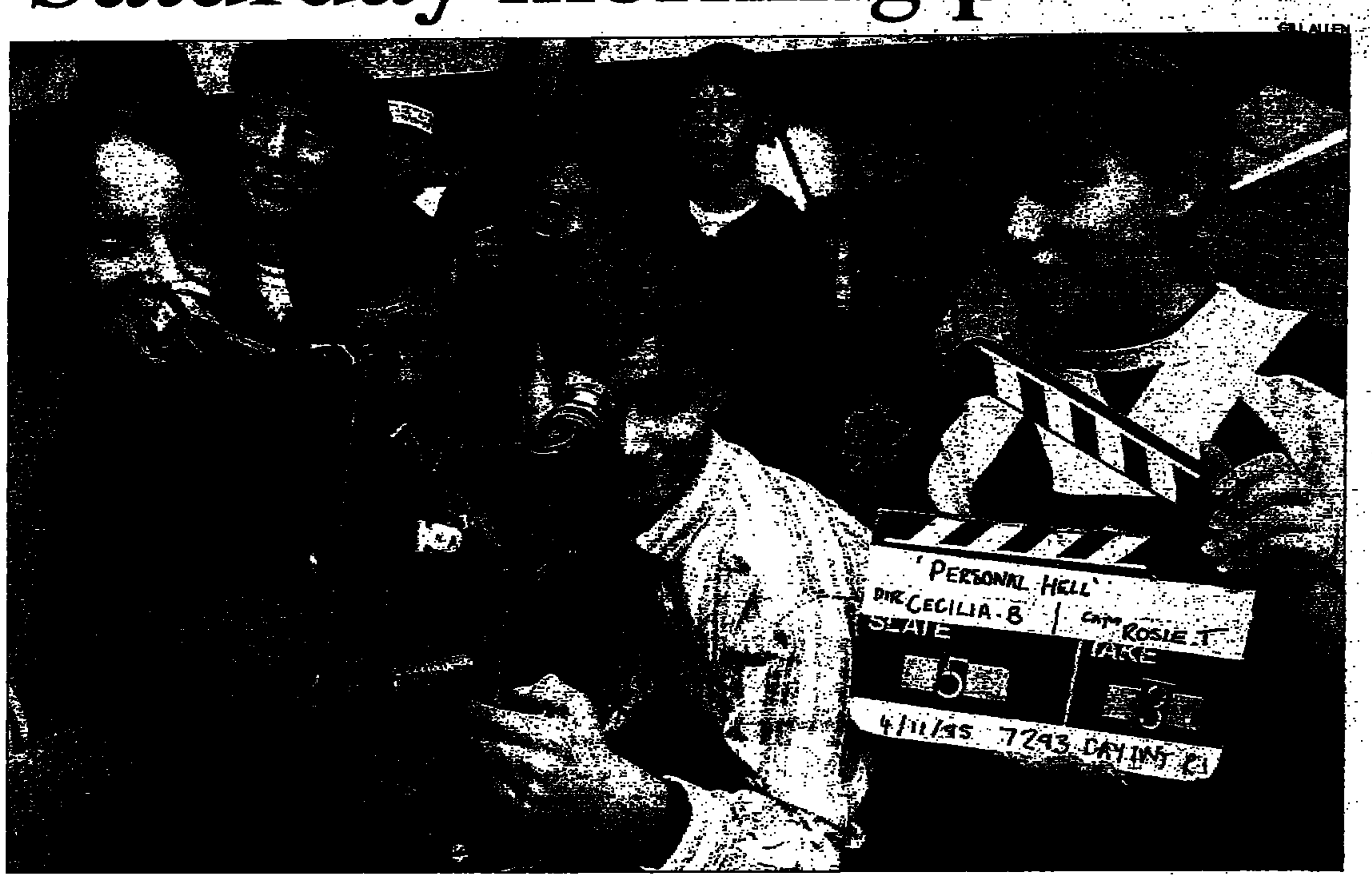
LA HAINE (15): Powerful, angry drama about volatile youths on a Paris housing estate. Director, Mathieu Kassovitz.
Gate ♿ (0171-727 4043) **Lumiere** (0171-836 0691) **MGM Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Baker St** (0171-935 2772) **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520)

◆ **TO WONG FOO THANKS FOR EVERYTHING, JULIE NEWMAR** (PG): New York drag queens charm the mid-West. Cosy comedy drama with Patrick Swayze and Wesley Snipes.
Plaza ♿ (0171-437 1234) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **A WALK IN THE CLOUDS** (PG): Vacuous 1940s romance with Keanu Reeves as a returning soldier who finds a new life in California's vineyards.
MGM Trocadero ♿ (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ♿ (0171-437 4343)

Saturday morning pictures

GILL ALLEN



Youngsters attending the weekly sessions can learn about every aspect of film-making, from loading the camera to choosing the best location

Hilary Finch discovers animated doddery dinosaurs and budding Tarantinos at the Children's Film Unit

The dinosaur seemed to be having a bit of trouble with his right leg. He limped across the screen, flailing out his thigh in a gait worthy of John Cleese at his most dysfunctional. This was the junior animation workshop of the Children's Film Unit. The green plasticine beast was being captured by 11-year-old Thomas Lowe, two frames a move, on 24 frames of video equipment borrowed from the London College of Printing.

Next door, Michael Dowling, a junior technician, was fumbling with both hands inside a big black bag, learning the tricky business of feeding film from a spool into a camera. Downstairs, in a dark subterranean garage, Rosie Thwaites and Ben Casson (both 17) were setting up booms, microphones, lighting and cameras to rehearse a hand-held shot for a two-minute short written by 16-year-old Cecilia Bogaard: "A really horrible story of jealousy and murder among siblings. It's called *Personal Hell*, 'cos that's just what it is."

The Children's Film Unit meets every Saturday in a studio in Putney, southwest London, shared during the week by a dance gym and a nursery school, and encourages 10 to 18-year-olds to explore every aspect of film-making from camera work, lighting and sound to acting, writing and editing, all under the guidance of artistic director Colin Finbow. The unit was formed in 1981, growing out of Finbow's own small film studies department at Forest Hill comprehensive school in southeast London. He would take his own 16mm equipment into school; make a handful of shorts each year, stockpile them, then put on a film festival. When the ICA saw *The Custard Boys*, they ran it for a season, took it to Cannes and, before you could say take two, the CFU was born.

Eighty children are now involved in the hands-on Saturday workshops. From them, 30 will be chosen to work on the annual 70-minute summer film which involves three weeks of shooting on location.

YOUNG
AT
art

Previous films have included *Willies War* (first prize at the Youth Film Festival of Flanders), *Emily's Ghost* (Frankfurt, Belfast, Brighton, Edinburgh) and *Doombeach* (Frankfurt, Sydney, Chicago, London). The film for summer 96 is the subject of heated discussion. This major production is commissioned by Channel 4 which, so far, has provided an annual budget of £100,000. Next year the sum will be reduced to £80,000: *Hollyoaks*, after all, is so very expensive.

At midday, the senior members of CFU get together to discuss next year's script with Finbow. Having learnt the gentle arts of individual discipline, clean fingers, problem-solving, organisation and social awareness since they first set up a tripod at the age of 10, they now have to face a new and daunting set of conundrums. First among these is the question of accountability to their commissioning editor. They have been moved from the drama department of Channel 4 to the children's department, and that means no smoking and no swearing for a start.

Corran Royle, 12, sees little chance of his ideas being immortalised in celluloid. Words fly like bullets as he reads me a tough, spare script about four guys robbing a liquor store. It is worthy of Tarantino — but it won't do for Channel 4. What about adapting a book? Possible, but they'd have to pay rights to the publisher. With the time and budget available, they seem stuck with their Frensham Heights location. "We have to wrap a story around a location we can afford."

Someone feels passionately about making a film about inner-city decay. But that couldn't be done in the woods, could it? And they simply don't have time to hire a second unit chasing police permits and traffic jams in London. The speculation goes on. Kidnapping, captivity? The relationship between two dropouts in the woods? "Yes, it's good to be a little claustrophobic on our budget. Do us a few outlines!"

The CFU has made its proposal to the National Lottery for £200,000 which would enable it to re-equip its workshops, expand and offer its facilities to more young people. At the moment each child pays a maximum of £10 a term and £2 for each workshop. The CFU receives no government money at all, and is looking for a major sponsor for the coming year.

"Every year," says Brianna Perkins, indefatigable administrator, producer and fundraiser, "is a new struggle".

● *Children's Film Unit, Suite 9, 66 Upper Richmond Road, London SW15 2RP. Tel: 0181-871 2006*

ENTERTAINMENTS

ART GALLERIES

A MAJOR EXHIBITION of Russian & soviet art at the Roy Miles Gallery. 29 Bruton Street, W1. 0171-495 4747

Exhibition
Until to 31st December
CHRISTMAS MISCELLANY
1240 - 1930
Selected works
£25 - £3,000
The Schuster Gallery
14 Maddox Street,
London W1
Tel: 0171 491 2208
Fax: 0171 491 9872

DANCE

SADLER'S WELLS 0171 713 6000 MOMIX in BASEBALL "Delightful entertainment" Until 9th Dec at 7.30pm Sat mat 2.30pm

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 0171 632 8300 (24hr) ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA Ton't 7.30 BARBER OF SEVILLE Tomor 7.30 TURANDOT

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 0171 304 4000 for Box Off & Standby info. Tickets available on the day The Royal Opera Tomor, Tue 7.30 AIDA Mon, Wed (Last Night) 7.30 TOSCA The Royal Ballet Ton't 7.30 Balanchine's APOLLO/MacMillan's SIDE SHOW/Balanchine's DUO CONCERTANT/Page's FEARFUL SYMMETRIES Sat 7.00 (World Premiere) TWYLA THARP ROSSINI BALLET English Bach Festival Sun 7.00 LE BOURGEOIS GENTILHOMME/DIDO AND AENEAS

THEATRES

ALBERY BO 0171 369 1730 cc 0171 344 4444 (no bkg fee) Grp 0171 413 3311 "FIVE STAR SHOW ...IRRESISTIBLE" D.Exp FIVE GUYS NAMED MOE SIXTH STOMPING YEAR Mon-Thu 8pm Fri & Sat 6 & 8.45 LAST 6 WEEKS Fri & Sat 6pm perf:Top 4 prices 2 for 1

ADELPHI "ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S MASTERPIECE" Wall St Journal SUNSET BOULEVARD Winner of 7 Tony Awards including BEST MUSICAL Starring ELAINE PAIGE 24HR CREDIT CARD BOOKINGS CALL 0171 344 0055 (bkg fee) GRP BOOKING 413 3302 (bkg fee) No booking fee for Adelphi Box Office Callers Recorded information 0171 379 8884 Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats Thur & Sat 3.00

ALDWYCH cc 0171 416 6003 0171 420 0000 (no fee) Evgs 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3.0 NIAMH CUSACK MARGARET TYZACK PAUL BHATTACHARJEE INDIAN INK "TOM STOPPARD'S TRIUMPH - A BEAUTIFUL AND FUNNY FIREBALL OF A PLAY TO ILLUMINATE THE WEST END" Today. Directed by PETER WOOD LAST 5 WEEKS ENDS JAN 6

AMBASSADORS 836 6111/420 0100/344 4444 From 11 Dec - 7 weeks only TRAINSPOTTING Award-winning play from Irvine Welsh's novel "Feverishly Funny" Guardian Mon-Fri at 8 Sat 5 & 8.30 Wed Mat at 5

APOLLO VICTORIA cc 0171 416 6055 cc 24hrs 0171 344 4444/0171 420 0000 Grps 0171 416 6075/ 413 3321 Andrew Lloyd Webber's New production of STARLIGHT EXPRESS "A REBORN THEATRICAL DELIGHT" Daily Mail White knuckle runs 19.45 daily Tue & Sat 15.00 Tickets from £12.50

APOLLO 494 5068/344 4444/420 0000. Eves 8, Mats Thu 3, 5 & 8.15 JENNY SEAGROVE "Impeccable" Times HAYLEY MILLS "Magnificent" F.T DEAD GUILTY "Richard Harris' new play is THE PERFECT THRILLER" S.Times

BLOOMSBURY THEATRE B/O C.C 0171 388 8822 From Dec 18 Mon-Fri 11.30 & 3.00 W/C Dec 25 Tue-Sat 11.30 & 3.00 SOOTY AT CHRISTMAS

CAMBRIDGE BO & cc 0171 494 5054 cc (no bkg fee) 312 1992/ 344 4444 Grps 413 3321/ 312 1970/ 494 5454 FAME THE MUSICAL "FAME IS A FEEL-GOOD TRIUMPH" Mail On Sunday "BREATHTAKING" Independent Eves 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3.00

COMEDY BO & cc 0171 369 1731 cc 0171 420 0000 (no bkg fee) ZOE WANAMAKER in THE GLASS MENAGERIE by TENNESSEE WILLIAMS Directed by Sam Mendes Eves 7.30 Mats Sat 3.00 OPENS TONIGHT LIMITED SEASON

CRITERION 369 1747 cc (no bkg fee) 0171 344 4444 DANIEL MASSEY MICHAEL PENNINGTON "two compelling leading performances...a tremendous play, tremendously performed" D.Tel TAKING SIDES "a masterpiece" Mail On Sunday by Ronald Harwood "scrupulously well-directed by Harold Pinter" Observer Mon-Sat 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 2.30 LAST WEEK MUST END SATURDAY

CRITERION 369 1747/420 0000/ 344 4444 JONATHAN HARVEY'S NEW COMEDY HIT RUPERT STREET LONELY HEARTS CLUB "wickedly funny...brilliantly comic" D.Mail Tues-Sat 8, Sat 4, Sun 3 & 7 NB Two Sunday perfs!! OPENS 13 DECEMBER

DOMINION Ticketlines 0171 416 6060/ 0171 420 0000 (bkg fee). Grps 0171 416 6075/413 3321/420 0200 GREASE Starring SHANE RICHIE and SAMANTHA JANUS "Fast, furious & fun, fun, fun." Daily Mirror Eves 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3pm TICKETS AVAILABLE - APPLY DAILY TO BOX OFFICE

DUCHESS cc 0171 494 5070 cc 344 4444 (no bkg fee)/836 2428 (bkg fee) 0171-413 3321 Eves 8pm, Wed mat 3pm, Sat 5pm & 8.30 "A SAUCY COMEDY" E. Std NOW IN ITS 5th YEAR DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER "Gloriously Outrageous" T.Out

DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL SS cc (Bkg fee) 24hr 7 days 0171 494 5000/344 4444/420 0000 Grps 494 5454/413 3311/312 8000 MISS SAIGON "THE CLASSIC LOVE STORY OF OUR TIME" NOW IN ITS 7TH SENSATIONAL YEAR! Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3pm Good seats avail for Wed Mat & some perfs - apply B.O. FOR TELEPHONE/POSTAL BOOKINGS & PERSONAL CALLERS 0171 494 5060 (BKG FEE)

DUKE OF YORK'S 0171 836 5122/5837 cc 420 0000/344 4444 (24 hrs, no fee) ROYAL COURT CLASSICS Henry Goodman Aisling O'Sullivan Fred Pearson Tim Potter HYSTERIA by Terry Johnson BEST COMEDY OLIVIER AWARD "brilliantly original and entertaining" S.Times FOR 8 WEEKS ONLY Eves 7.30pm Mats Sat 3pm

FORTUNE BO & CC 0171 836 2238/0171 312 8033 DAVID BURKE ANDREW HAVILL Susan Hill's THE WOMAN IN BLACK Adapted by Stephen Mallatratt "A real thrill of horror" S.Times NOW IN ITS 7TH YEAR Mon-Sat 8pm Mats Tues 3pm Sat 4pm

FORTUNE Cov.Gdn 0171 836 2238 "One of the finest performances on the West End stage" What's On MARIE "A breath of fresh air" Times EVERY SUNDAY 3.30pm

FORTUNE 0171 836 2238 From 13 Dec, A Magical Xmas Show THE ENCHANTED TOYSHOP "A real treat for 3-9 year olds" Gdn

GARRICK 0171 494 5085/ 0171 312 1990 (no bkg fee) WINNER OF 19 MAJOR AWARDS The Royal National Theatre production JB Priestley's AN INSPECTOR CALLS "THRILLING...MUST BE SEEN" D.Mail "ONE OF THE MOST INTOXICATING, THEATRICALLY IMAGINATIVE EXPERIENCES OF THE 1990s" E.S "TWO HOURS OF ENTHRALLING, VISUALLY STUNNING DRAMA" D.Tel FINAL LONDON SEASON Mon-Fri 7.45, Sat 5.00 & 8.15, Wed mat 2.30

GIELGUD Shaftesbury Ave inc cc 0171 494 5530 (no bkg fee) cc 0171 344 4444 (no bkg fee) Groups 0171 494 5454 JULIA McKENZIE COMMUNICATING DOORS by ALAN AYCKBOURN "A MELODRAMATIC COMEDY THRILLER WONDERFULLY FUNNY AND GENUINELY SCARY" D.Tel "with the audience in turn ROARING WITH LAUGHTER AND LEAPING FORWARD IN FRIGHT" Independent Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00

HAYMARKET 930 8800 cc 344 4444/420 0000 (bkg fee) THE PETER HALL COMPANY ALAN BATES GEMMA JONES 'superb' Times 'marvellous' Gdn THE MASTER BUILDER 'Peter Hall's fine new staging' D.Tel 'Not to be missed on any account' S.Tms. FOR 5 WEEKS ONLY Mon-Sat 7.45, Mats Wed, Sat 3pm

HER MAJESTY'S 24hr 494 5400 (bkg fee) CC 344 4444/420 0000 (bkg fee) Grps 494 5454/413 3311/930 6123 ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S AWARD WINNING MUSICAL THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Directed by HAROLD PRINCE NOW BKG TO 28 SEPT 96 Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00. Apply to Box Office daily for returns

LONDON PALLADIUM BO/CC 0171 494 5020/344 4444 (£1 tkt serv chg) 420 0000 Grps 0171 494 5454 JIM DALE RETURNS TO THE WEST END "A MAJOR THEATRICAL EVENT" Daily Mail OLIVER! 2ND SPECTACULAR YEAR "LIONEL BART'S MASTERPIECE YOU CAN'T ASK FOR MORE" S.Times Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.30 SOME GOOD SEATS AVAIL NOW FOR WEEKDAY PERFS

LYRIC Shafts Ave BO/cc 0171 494 5045 cc 0171 344 4444 (no bkg fee) LEO McKERN "a comic tour de force" D.Tel NICHOLA McAULIFFE "born to play Maggie" Today GRAHAM TURNER "gloriously funny" D.Mail HOBSON'S CHOICE by Harold Brighouse Directed by Frank Hauser "a magnificent hit" D.Tel Eves 7.30 Mat Sat 3.00 EXTENDED TO 3 FEB

NATIONAL THEATRE BO 0171 928 2252 Grps 0171 620 0741;24hr cc bkg fee 0171 420 0000 OLIVIER Ton't, Tomor 7.15 MOTHER COURAGE & HER CHILDREN Bertolt Brecht in a new version by David Hare LYTTLETON Tomor (PREVIEW) 7.30 ROSENCRANTZ & GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD Tom Stoppard COTTESLOE Ton't, Tomor 7.00 RICHARD II William Shakespeare

NEW LONDON Drury Lane WC2 BO 0171 405 0072 CC 0171 404 4079 24hr 0171 344 4444/420 0000 Grps 0171 413 3311/930 6123 THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER/ T.S. ELIOT INTERNATIONAL AWARD-WINNING MUSICAL CATS Eves 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.00 LATECOMERS NOT ADMITTED WHILE AUDITORIUM IS IN MOTION, PLEASE BE PROMPT. Bars open at 6.45 LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE.

OLD VIC 0171 928 6655/312 8034 The Royal National Theatre's THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS "It is hard to imagine a more enjoyable family show than this" D.Tel 'AN EVENING OF HIGH THEATRICAL PLEASURE' Eve Std SOME GOOD SEATS STILL AVAILABLE BEFORE CHRISTMAS Mon-Sat 7.30pm, Wed & Sat mats 2.30pm

PALACE THEATRE 0171-434 0909 cc 24hrs (bkg fee) 0171-344 4444 Grps 0171 413 3311 THE WORLD'S MOST POPULAR MUSICAL LES MISERABLES NOW IN ITS 11TH RECORD-BREAKING YEAR Eves 7.30 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30 Latecomers not admitted until the interval LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE

PHOENIX BO/CC 0171 369 1733 /344 4444/420 0000 (fee) BEST MUSICAL ALL 4 MAJOR AWARDS WILLY RUSSELL'S BLOOD BROTHERS STEPHANIE LAWRENCE STEFAN DENNIS CARL WAYNE "...Brings the audience to its feet, and roaring its approval" D Mail Eves 7.45 Mats Thurs 3 Sat 4

PICCADILLY 0171 369 1734 cc 24hrs 344 4444, Grps 312 1970/413 3321 *WINNER!* BEST MUSICAL Evening Standard Award '95 "ONE OF THE BEST MUSICAL PRODUCTIONS LONDON HAS SEEN FOR YEARS" D.Express "JERRY HERMAN'S WONDERFUL BURST OF MUSICAL FIREWORKS" D.Mail MACK & MABEL Mon-Sat at 7.45, Mats Wed & Sat at 3.00

PLAYHOUSE 0171 839 4401 /0171 420 0000/0171 344 4444 AN ALL STAR CAST IN RAY COONEY'S NEW COMEDY HIT FUNNY MONEY "LAUGHS GALORE...A WINNER" D. Exp "Better than Feydeau...priceless" D. Tel "It deserves to Run For Your Wife, oops, run & run" D. Mail Mon-Sat 8.00, Mats Thu 3.00, Sat 5.00 THEATRE RESTAURANT 0171 930 9445

PRINCE EDWARD 0171 734 8951 cc (24hr no bkg fee) First Call 420 0100 / 0171 344 4444 Groups 930 6123 BEST MUSICAL Laurence Olivier Awards 93 'YOU'D BE CRAZY TO MISS IT' D.Mail CRAZY FOR YOU "PUTS THE BRIGHT LIGHTS BACK IN THE WEST END IN DAZZLING STYLE" M.o.S. Eves 7.45, Mats Thu & Sat 3.00 GOOD SEATS AVAILABLE THIS WEEK

PRINCE OF WALES 0171 839 5972/420 0232/344 4444/416 6052 Grps 0171 420 0200/413 3321 TOMMY STEELE WHAT A SHOW 'Tommy's Show packs Flash, Bang, Wallop' Eve Standard Evgs Mon-Sat 8pm, Mats Wed 3pm Sat 5pm For a Limited Season

PRINCE EDWARD 0171 447 5400 First Call 420 0100 (24hr Bkg fee) 344-4444 Groups 420 0200 Cameron Mackintosh presents MARTIN GUERRE A New Musical by BOUBLIL & SCHONBERG FROM 22 MAY 1996

QUEENS BO/CC (£1 bkg fee) 0171 494 5040/344 4444 Mon-Thu 8pm, Fri 8.45pm & Sat 6pm & 8.45pm LILY SAVAGE PRISONER CELL-BLOCK H THE MUSICAL "Hilarious" F.T. "A Huge Hit - A Christmas Smash" Obs 6 WEEKS ONLY! Stalls & D.C. £12.50-£24.00, Upper Circle £8.50

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY LONDON (0171 638 8891) BARBICAN: A CHRISTMAS CAROL Ton't 7.00 THE PIT: CAIN previews from 12 Dec STRATFORD (01789 295623) RST: RICHARD III Ton't 7.30 SWAN: FAUST I Ton't 7.30 FAUST II Tomor 7.30 TOP: THE PHOENICIAN WOMEN Today 1.30 & 7.30

SAVOY THEATRE 0171 836 8888 cc 420 0000 grps 312 1970 No bkg fee BELINDA LANG KEVIN McNALLY in Terry Johnson's award winning comedy DEAD FUNNY "Blissfully Witty and Wicked" Eve Stand Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.15pm Sat mat 5pm & Wed mat 2.30pm

SHAFTESBURY 0171 379 5399 CC 0171 344 4444 Until 16 Dec EDDIE IZZARD ENTIRE RUN SOLD OUT Queues daily for returns Tues - Sat 8pm & Sun 7.30pm

SHAFTESBURY 0171 379 5399 344 4444 (24hr/bkg fee) IT'S BACK - 4 WEEKS ONLY 19 DEC-13 JAN INC MATS RETURN TO THE FORBIDDEN PLANET THE COSMIC XMAS PARTY "deliriously addictive" D.Tel

SHAFTESBURY 0171 379 5399 0171 344 4444 (24hr/no bkg fee) Groups 0171 413 3321 TOMMY PAUL KEATING AS TOMMY KIM WILDE AS MRS WALKER Previews 20 February, Opens 5 March

ST MARTIN'S 0171 836 1443 (no bkg fee) 0171 497 9977 (bkg fee) Groups 0171 312 1994 (no bkg fee) Eves 8, Tues 2.45, Sat 5 & 8 44th Year of Agatha Christie's THE MOUSETRAP

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■ THEATRE 1

The true spirit of Kipling is evoked in the Young Vic's fine staging of *The Jungle Book*

■ THEATRE 2

... but Robert Louis Stevenson is ill-served by the Mermaid's naff *Treasure Island*

THE TIMES ARTS

■ THEATRE 3

... and David Essex's music does not redeem *Beauty and the Beast*, a crass ice show

■ OPERA

Marvellous to look at, but Maria Ewing produces patchy sounds in Covent Garden's *Tosca*

CHRISTMAS SHOWS: Anthropomorphism for the thinking child ... setting up camp on the island ... ice cold and wet

Exceedingly good Kipling

The Jungle Book
Young Vic

Is the Young Vic the place where children with unprejudiced minds and strong, flexible imaginations can be most sure of a Christmas treat? It is too early to answer with total confidence, but the signs are good. Last year, Tim Supple brought us some simply staged Grimm that did not shrink from showing ugly sisters cutting off their toes to fit into the prince's slippers or getting their eyes pecked out by vengeful birds. Now, he somewhat similarly rescues *The Jungle Book* from Disney revisionism and gives us back Kipling himself. It is a trickier endeavour for several reasons. A forest must be evoked; eight actors must play all sorts of animals, reptiles and birds; an archaic language, a Tennyson-speak laced with "thees" and "thous", must be embraced; an author not likely to go down well with some teachers must be respected. Supple and his cast do not shirk any of the challenges Kipling sets, and, judging by the concentration of a mainly young first-night audience, have coped with most of them pretty successfully.

Those wanting a rerun of the Rikki-Tikki-Tavi wars may at first feel cheated, for the evening involves the boy Mowgli only. He finds sanctuary with the wolves, is befriended by the bear Baloo and the panther Bagheera, is captured by monkeys and rescued by the python Kaa, and returns briefly to a human civilisation that ungratefully rejects him after he kills his and their great enemy, the tiger Shere Khan. But that is more than enough.

Ferocious percussion, combined with scarlet light playing on a circle of red earth, bounce you into a jungle mood before a word is spoken, and the actors never let you slip back into a London one. Clive Mendus is a maverick tiger and not the bug-eyed vagrant in a carpet he superficially resembles. Simon Coury is a bear, not a friar in a furry brown cowl. Andy Williams is first a wolf, then a python, not a bald chap in grey trousers, nor a big, beefy cove waving a long pole.

True, some smaller spectators did titter when Williams's Kaa did his sensual dance in Apeville, but, if you return to Kipling, you find that it is supposed to look absurd yet still mesmerise a score of monkeys into becoming the snake's elevenses. In any case, the chase through the treetops that precedes it is particularly well done, thanks to the scurrying, squealing black figures with torches that swoop on Ronny Jhutti's Mowgli and spin him down the steel walkway traversing the stage. The cast even makes a passable stab at the impossible: Shere Khan's trampling by a cannily orchestrated army of charging buffalo.

Some still think of Kipling as an emotionally challenged imperialist who set a million stiff upper lips quivering to *If*. The show re-emphasises how much of a travesty that is. It admittedly cannot be unreservedly recommended to sentimentalists who prefer their pythons in Looney Tune mode, or to animal-rights fanatics who deny that much of creation is innately carnivorous. Kipling was not cute, wet or politically correct. But he did respect animals and what he persistently calls the Law of the Jungle.

That phrase has become a cliché synonym for chaos. To Kipling, it was the opposite, a code that acknowledges territorial needs, a hierarchy of hunting, a protocol of killing, and an ecological balance. To him, nature was harsh but wise, and he observed it with what can indeed be called tough love. How refreshing, how splendidly refreshing to be able to see his work as it actually is.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

MARILYN KINGWILL

Dan Milne, Sarah C. Cameron and Ronny Jhutti make a virtue of the bare necessities in *The Jungle Book*

Alas, me hearties, a pallid offering

Treasure Island
Mermaid

US OLD theatre-dogs, battered by years of sailing up and down the West End, look on the summons to board this Christmas vessel much as Billy Bones viewed Blind Pew as he came swooping down to deliver the Black Spot.

Perhaps that is too hard. So far as I know, no colleague has died watching the show, not even from boredom. Let's call the spot dark grey.

I have a faint memory, from the days when I was knee high to a cabin boy, that stage versions of *Treasure Island* used to be rumbustious affairs with an entire ship hoving into view, her sails swelling in the wind, and Long John Silver the kind of character whose deep-throated chuckles of dangerous good humour shivered timbers on all sides.

In contrast, this adaptation by Glyn "Narnia" Robbins is a pallid business. Barry Stanton, who plays Bones before donning a white wig to do his patriotic duty as Captain Smollett, wields his cutlass vigorously enough. The pirates in the stockade look credibly mutinous as they mutter in corners. But the twists of the plot are often unclear, and made more so by the oddities of a direction that will treat a wall as solid one moment and non-existent the next.

Judging by Kate Bassett's review of last year's production here, the new director, Phil Willmott, has turfed out some of the crasser ideas, but he still has some ridiculous notions of his own.

Silver's first entrance is a classic in absurdity. Fatuous Squire Trelawney has been recruiting sailors in the Spyglass Inn when mention is made of the landlord: lo and behold, a tube behind the scenery puffs out a cloud of smoke, for no reason whatever except to provide Roy Marsden with an ominous entry.

On the island, too, puffs of smoke suddenly issuing from the roots of trees act like a rattlesnake's warning rattle. There's no smoke without a pirate inside it.

Once the smoke has cleared, Marsden hobbles and sways about in a spirited manner but it is difficult to understand why he should feel so strangely paternal towards young Jim — there must have been other cabin boys in his life. The script does not justify his closing remarks about the son he never had.

The sacks of gold are good to see, but quite the best moments occur when crazed Ben Gunn is around. Picturesquely ragged, although blessed with beautifully combed blond hair, Raymond Platt plays him as though he were Minnie from *The Goon Show*, she of the quavering voice.

Capering around the stage and histrionically waving his arms, he extends his wailing "ho-o-o-ome" to half a dozen syllables.

But while this is a blissfully camp invention, far too much of the evening is pretty naff. It may not put anyone off reading the book, but nor will it acquaint them with the sense of dread that lurks there.

JEREMY KINGSTON

MARILYN KINGWILL

Jim (Paul Basson) and Roy Marsden (Long John Silver) share a joke with Cap'n Flint in a paste *Treasure Island*

Dancing in a winter blunderland

Beauty and the Beast
Albert Hall

I CANNOT decide which has left me colder: the snow seeping into my shoes outside the Albert Hall, or the three hours I have just spent inside weathering David Essex's hideously tacky *Beauty and the Beast*, ice-skated by the Russian All-Stars, many sensibly wearing masks.

Touring to every UK town under the sun for the next eight months, this musical ice ballet is, the publicity informs me, "a new concept in entertainment". My understanding of the word has indeed been stretched. This is the fairy-tale on the rocks.

Certainly, the All-Stars are dextrous on their blades. Twenty-six of them zoom around the small rink in close concentric circles, possibly looking for the exit. Beauty's two sisters stump on their points and heels with briefly amusing petulance. One serving man bounces in doing one-armed cartwheels and braking on his toes. Beauty never bats an eyelid, legs split and hoisted aloft on her admirer's hand.

The ladies are indeed frequently sent flying, draped over pirouetting gallants' heads or, clutched by one ankle, lifted off the ground like fetching rotary blades. There is a transcendent thrill in such moments. No one went sailing into the stalls.

However, the comic bit parts, hamming up being soused on skates, are lame. The costumes are cheaply glittery. Half the company seem to think they are in Jane Austen On Ice. Others insist on Cossack-style kits, while the Beast is a punk Chinese Dragon. Beauty, starting off in a fluff-and-petals number, slips into a nauseous peaches-and-cream frock and finishes in her wedding outfit, looking like human nougat. Meanwhile the Beast twirls in despair, sinking as he spins. This is probably because he has been cursed, by an evil hairdresser, with a monstrous blue rinse and electric-shock chop.

The storyline comes in for a severe mauling, courtesy of David Wood (who made less of a pig's ear of his Roald Dahl dramatisations). Perhaps the blame should fall on coach-cum-choreographer Tatiana Tarasova for the specious dances by pirates, chess pieces and the Beast's best mates, who also get turned into inexplicable animals (not least a tartan-trimmed chicken).

Anyway, why is Beauty's father prancing around with a miniature ship? Is he meant to be at sea (I certainly was) or is he a model boat fanatic? Why is Beauty pursued in the dark wood by a pack of garbage bags? Could they have been bears?

Essex's electronic score is thuddingly tedious. The tunes might as well be on a loop. At bizarrely irregular intervals, some parlous pre-recorded lyrics are heard. The most prized, judging by the repeats, appears to be "bella bella sounds like beauty". Erm, no, it *means* beauty. It *sounds* blooming terribellable.

The audience made appreciative noises at the end. This was a charity evening.

KATE BASSETT

A national asset under threat

RADIO: **Peter Barnard** flies the flag for the BBC World Service

You have built a business with a reputation for quality which is second to none. I am your principal investor. Every three years you tell me how the business is doing and I tell you how much money I will invest the following year.

This year you have splendid news: the business now has 130 million customers worldwide. My news is not so good: I have decided to invest less money. The obvious conclusion is that you are clever and I am an idiot.

Both correct. The BBC World Service has 130 million listeners, not counting untold millions in places like China and Burma where people who admit to listening to the BBC are liable to be shot. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office, principal investor in the World Service, has cut its investment for next year by £5.4 million, which amounts to 20 per cent of the original budget. Even larger cuts are coming in 1997 and 1998.

The World Service, which reaches more than one million people each week in the UK, is known in some BBC circles as representing "what Radio 4 used to be like". Certainly, the World Service is an uncompromising home for broadcasting which assumes the audience to be intelligent.

The Foreign Office funding cuts, slid under the door while a typhoon of post-Budget paperwork was blowing around Whitehall, tend to confirm the impression that the World Service only matters to this Government when it is serving some perceived propaganda purpose: nobody was talking cuts during the Gulf War, for example.

No less a figure than Marmaduke Hussey, the BBC chairman, chose to make a statement when the cuts were announced: "The World Service is an acknowledged national asset," he said, while accepting that "it cannot be seen in isolation from the totality of the budget".

In fact, it could be seen in isolation, for the very good reason that the World Service is an invisible export of far greater importance than most others. But the Government wishes to treat it as if it was a bypass, therefore the famed "private finance initiative" has been brought into play.

This means that the BBC is asked to make up the World Service funding shortfall by bringing in investors. The single great strength of the World Service is that it is a national asset, owned by the nation. It is not a telephone company or a sewerage works.

If the Government does not care about the World Service then it should say so. But I doubt that Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, would want to take further action without hearing from those who care about the World Service. His address is Room 53, Downing Street West, London W1A 2AL.

Ewing loses her nerve

OPERA

Tosca
Covent Garden

AN unhappy night at the Garden. The second *Tosca* revival of the season brought back Maria Ewing in the title role, which she sang with considerable distinction opposite Domingo here four years ago. This time round she fought a losing battle to control Puccini's vocal line, which she found as slithery as the snow-dusted streets outside the Opera House.

She still looks marvellous, especially in the low-cut peach-coloured dress of Act I. With her ringlets and wide-eyed, capricious expression she could have stepped from *Pride and Prejudice*. But this is Puccini, not Austen. The close of Act II carried some of the old power. Tosca's eyes suddenly light on the knife on Scarpia's table and she steals across the stage, a feline stalking its prey. The weapon is carefully concealed behind her back before it ends up in the heart of the police chief. A rare moment of drama lit up an otherwise timid performance and *Tosca* is not about timidity.

Vissi d'arte began well, but faded away into stretched notes and swallowed consonants. The house greeted it in total silence, which probably unnerved Maria Ewing for the last act. On her day she can be a great artist. This was not one of them.

She was unfortunate in losing her scheduled partner. Giuseppe Giacomini withdrew because of an ear infection and Johan Botha, heard as Cavaradossi earlier in the autumn, stepped in. He gave a confident performance, once some grittiness had cleared from the voice, though hardly a lyrical one. The South African tenor too often sang with his arms akimbo, as though signalling a wide at the Wanderers ground in Johannesburg, and was consistently loud. Fine for the "Vittorias !", monotonous elsewhere.

Harry Dworchak, probably sensing that all around him was not well, made a cautious house debut, turning Baron Scarpia into a sleek old pussycat and not much more. Scarpias need to cut through the *Te Deum* at the close of Act I to show who is in charge in Rome before Tosca's knife finds its target. Dworchak was just one of the congregation.

Simone Young, in an effort to keep the performance together, allowed the orchestra to be unduly tepid to start with and then got things moving in the second act. The production, still credited to John Cox, gets darker with each revival and the firing squad could well have complained against the light, although Botha's ample Cavaradossi gave them plenty to aim at.

Coming the night after *Aida* this *Tosca* looked like an item designed to plug a hole in the pre-Xmas repertory, a stocking-filler hastily wrapped.

JOHN HIGGINS

Is anybody out there listening?

JAZZ

Norma Winstone
Pizza on the Park

SINGER Norma Winstone's latest album is called *Well Kept Secret* for a very good reason: like many of her generation of British jazz musicians, she has failed to receive the recognition she so richly deserves after a 30-year career in the music.

In the so-called "jazz renaissance" of the 1980s, she and her contemporaries were considered too old to be young lions and too young to be respected veterans; even now, her unique contribution to British jazz, both in her own right and as an inspiration for the current rich crop of singers from Claire Martin and Tina May to Christine Tobin and Ian Shaw, is too seldom acknowledged.

Winstone's performance on this occasion, backed by pianist John Donaldson, bassist Dave Green and drummer Tristan Mailliot, did little to dispel the mystery surrounding such neglect. Admittedly, hers is not a spectacular, show-stoppingly strident voice full of drama and pathos; she has an air, rather, of slightly diffident warmth, confiding intimacies as she does in an informal, almost conversational manner easily mistaken for casualness.

Hers is an art which conceals art, more dependent for its effects on unshowy, technical skills such as clear diction and dynamic control than on overt emotionalism. Nevertheless, cosy, subterranean supper clubs such as the Pizza on the Park, in Knightsbridge, exist to showcase such strengths, and she should have thrived in such a setting.

As it was, for no discernible reason, a smallish audience failed to meet Winstone halfway, despite being regaled with a well-balanced set, impeccably performed.

Unusual material — Dave Grusin's affecting *Wait for Me* and a seldom-performed Gershwin tune, *Isn't it a Pity*, which has the odd distinction of being probably the only popular song to mention both Schopenhauer and Heine (the last in a rhyme with China) — was interspersed with standards medleys. Winstone's own sparky lyrics to Steve Swallow's *Ladies in Mercedes* sat easily alongside those of a Frank Sinatra medley, performed in honour of the great man's 80th birthday.

She even sang a perfect, swooningly melancholic version of *Set 'em up, Joe* and a breathtakingly lovely *You'd be so Nice to Come Home to* in duet with Green. However, it was all to little avail, as far as immediate audience reaction went.

Based on this performance, it seems that this two-week residency will do little to disturb Norma Winstone's status as a well-kept secret in local jazz circles — but then who said life was fair?

CHRIS PARKER

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Roger Scruton scrutinises America's most fashionable political ideologist and discovers merely a repackaged version of liberalism

Why Mr Clinton's guru neglects posterity

Amitai Etzioni, Professor of Sociology at George Washington University, is fast becoming a household name in America, where his "Communitarian" philosophy speaks to the anxieties of middle-class Americans and has been explicitly endorsed by President Clinton. It purports to offer a middle course between left and right, liberal and conservative, state collectivism and individualist anarchy.

Communitarianism is now an orthodoxy, not only in America, but also on this side of the Atlantic, influencing both Labour and Tory rhetoric, and turning the heads of such respectable intellectual figures as the once-conservative John Gray, and the once-radical Anthony Barnett. So what exactly is Communitarianism? The British publication of Etzioni's manifesto, *The Spirit of Community*, is our opportunity to discover.

THE SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY
By Amitai Etzioni
HarperCollins, £7.99 paperback original

Etzioni starts from a simple and familiar premise — that the liberal emphasis on rights encourages people to ask, but not to give. The time has come for America to wake up to the duties of citizenship, if it is not to degenerate into an anarchic crowd of welfare-dependants, tax-dodgers and pleasure-seekers. The time has come to write "we" in the place of "I", and "responsibility" in the place of "right".

Most of us would unhesitatingly endorse those sentiments, and recognise that America's situation is the situation of the entire civilised world. But what exactly are we to do about it? Etzioni writes in an up-beat pamphleteering style, and his main purpose is to persuade others to see things as he does. He seems to believe that the community which he evokes as the source of moral feeling will come spontaneously into existence, just so long as enough people believe in it.

At the same time, he is culpably offhand about the causes of moral decline. Although he believes in the family as the primary source of moral education, he disregards the fact that families have traditionally depended on religion in order to sanctify the bond of marriage, and to provide parents with the spiritual sanctions that give sense to their moral teachings and quicken the conscience of the child. Etzioni is a firm opponent of "authoritarianism" and the "religious Right". He recognises the high social cost of liberal attitudes, but cannot in his heart relinquish them, preferring to believe that tolerant discussion will be sufficient in itself to regenerate the squandered moral capital of our civilisation.

Etzioni: hollow sentimentality

Thus, he condones the Supreme Court decision which made school prayer unconstitutional, despite the manifest damage that it has done to rural communities in America. For these are not communities in which liberals would feel at home — a fact not unconnected with their longevity.

While recognising the need for lasting marriages, he upholds the standard liberal attitudes towards homosexuality and pornography. It seems not to occur to him that the enormous sacrifice involved in monogamous marriage is possible only in the context of an elaborate social endorsement — an endorsement which frowns on deviant sexual behaviour, on promiscuity, and on the habit of demeaning human love through pornography. He recognises the terrible social cost of illegitimacy, but makes no mention of the principal thing which served to limit it — shame enforced by ridicule. He keeps an open mind on abortion, while recognising that future generations have an indefeasible claim to our protection.

His ideal community is one from which the normal costs of community — coercion, busybodying, authoritarian attitudes, shame and humiliation of the outcast — have been mysteriously eliminated. While there are places — the leafy suburbs of America, say — where this community of the enlightened may indeed emerge, they are likely to be as exceptional now as they have always been.

Not that Etzioni's recommendations are all unsound. He is right to criticise special interest groups as sources of social fragmentation. He is right to insist on honest labour as the real price of a wage; he is right to emphasise vigilance as a part of neighbourliness, and he is right to recommend that we should voice our moral attitudes more firmly. But his underlying agenda is precisely that which originally caused the trouble: the agenda of modern liberalism, which assumes that society is a contract among its present members. Etzioni is merely concerned to remind his fellow liberals that contractual rights must be paid for by contractual duties.

But society is not a contract. As Burke pointed out two centuries ago, it is a partnership between the dead, the living and the unborn. Morality is the safeguard of absent generations, the means whereby a social inheritance is passed on from the dead to their successors, the only guarantee that our cultural capital will not be squandered by its temporary trustees. But to see things this way is to recognise the need for authority, coercion and a large measure of gut prejudice. It is to recognise the real cost of community and to welcome it for the sake of others whom we will never know.

This is the thought which is absent from Etzioni's pages, and the absence of which explains their hollow sentimentality. Tony Blair may be able to win an election by spouting this stuff; but no society can be redeemed by believing it.

New World jilts old mistresses

Imperialism has had a bad press. In the 19th century, what Sir John Seeley captured with a phrase as "the expansion of Europe" was rationalised as a story of confident conquest by those with history on their side: men who imposed their culture with more or less difficulty (but finally conclusively) on the natives. In the 20th century, we know too well how men's confidence in the morality of that conquest and its political practicability was reversed. The title of this study is implicitly ironical: Pagden is a Seeley for the 1990s.

Jonathan Clark

LORDS OF ALL THE WORLD
Ideologies of Empire in Spain, Britain and France, 1500-1800
By Anthony Pagden
Yale, £19.95

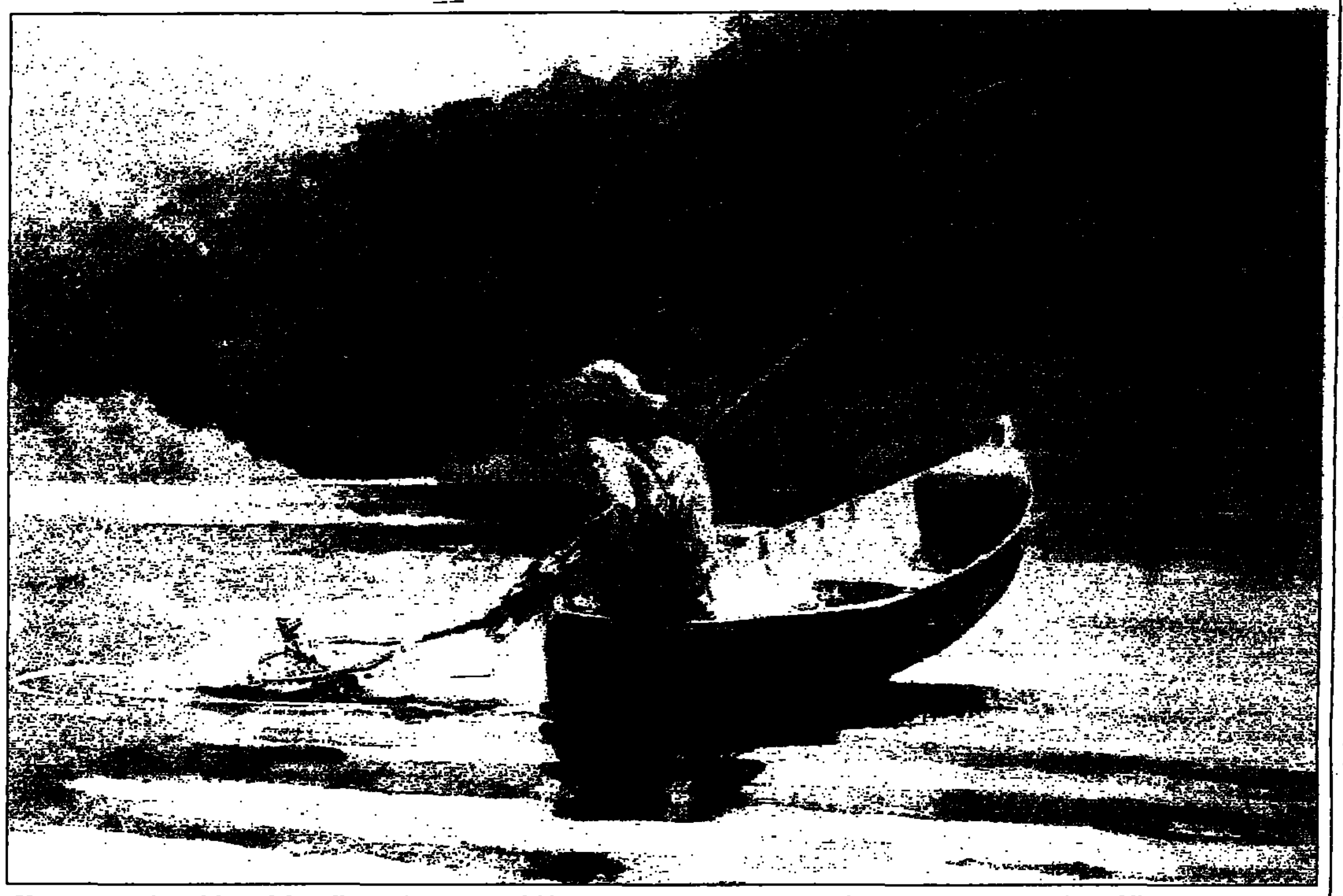
Historians, too, came to question the received version of the conquest: colonisation influenced the colonisers as much as the colonised. Empire was now seen as a two-way process: the culture of the imperialists was dethroned. Today, the talk is all of native-indebted Creole cultures, doubtful and shifting national identities. The politically correct term is "encounter"; "discovery" is a banned word. Sir Walter Raleigh, General Wolfe and Cecil Rhodes have largely been exiled from the curriculum.

Yet Anthony Pagden, in this impressive and sophisticated overview, reminds us that there had been a debate on the nature and justification of empires all along, only obscured by the Victorian imperialists. A debate was conducted in all the early modern European empires about their purposes, justifications and effects. Pagden's theme is Europe's first imperial phase, from Columbus to the loss of North America in the 1770s and South America half a century later. Learned in Spanish, French and British sources, he compares their rationales of empire and shows how all three failed, bequeathing the world order that is now a hangover from the imperial party.

Spain's imperial vision was close to the ideal of universal monarchy, to which Christian Roman emperors had been drawn by the desire to spread their faith. Roman law, evangelisation and Papal recognition provided Spanish rulers with a title to military conquest; but it was then challenged and undermined by the Catholic intelligentsia itself.

French and British colonists in North America often boasted of acquiring their lands by purchase and treaty, and keeping them by agriculture and commerce; not for them the Spanish imitation of ancient conquests, from Roman triumph to Roman ruin. But this rationale, too, was challenged from within, and critics could point to British rule in India for counter-examples. Nor were the British able to reconstruct their North American colonies as a federation, any more than was Spain.

None of these monarchies could surrender political authority for long-term economic and "human" gain. Pagden explains this: "Monarchies were rarely enlightened agencies." But perhaps it was not necessary to be a monarch to learn from *King Lear*: what empire ever dissolved itself?



Homer's America celebrated the solitary odyssey: *Boy Fishing* (1892), from *Winslow Homer* by Nicolai Cikovsky and Franklin Kelly (Yale, £40)

None of these rationales, in Spain, France or Britain, stood up to the hostile critiques of *philosophes*, such as the Abbé Raynal. But Pagden reminds us, too, of the aspirations of Mirabeau, Le Mercier, Quesnay and others that the "humanising power" of Montesquieu's *doux commerce* would replace the spirit of conquest, "politeness" would replace patriotism. European sovereigns, wrote Hume, needed to adopt "enlarged and benevolent sentiments towards each other".

The only solution, insisted Kant in 1795, was a universal federation united by shared commercial interests. In this vision, commerce is much more than the exchange of goods; it is an essential part of the civilising process, a route to "a deeper human awareness of the identity and singularity of others".

Because of the relics of colonialism, argues Pagden, modern cultures are "porous and unstable" to an unprecedented degree, plural and multicultural; nations compete with confederations as the future political norm. Empire was all a mistake, derived from the temporary technological superiority of Europeans over some (but not all) other peoples. By 1800 it had been discredited. The second phase of imperial expansion in the 19th century was a mistake repeated.

Yet the antidote had already been provided by the critics of the first phase: the cosmopolitan ideal saw an alternative to colonialism and conflict in world federations, constructed on principles of democratic egalitarianism. I kept expecting to meet the League of Nations in this book, but Pagden keeps this implication cleverly out of sight.

Colonialism, he argues, itself gave rise by reaction to the ideology of democratic republicanism, which "was to become the dominant ideology of the modern industrialised world". The United States was its key embodiment in an exemplary federation: a postcolonial culture which envisaged a world role, as Alexander Hamilton put it, to "vindicate the honour of the human race" against a Europe too long able to "plume herself as mistress of the world and consider the rest of mankind as created for her benefit".

This was to be achieved, Pagden suggests, by the export of Jefferson's ideology, which he terms participatory republicanism. This mission, he argues, still informs the relations of the USA with the rest of the world. Religious scepticism and cultural pluralism can be accommodated only within the framework provided by democracy, and a democracy pursuing its mission of moral reform through "an exalted vision of commerce". As Pagden presents it, the collapse of the first imperial enterprise under the criticism of the Enlightenment has entailed this new world order upon us. International monetary institutions, democratic egalitarianism and the supranational confederation are facets of a single system.

We are trapped: there is no alternative. It is as depressing a conclusion as any anti-colonialist could wish. At least, when the United States of Europe arrives, we shall now have reasons for consoling ourselves by reflecting on its historical inevitability.

Last of the bad boys of letters

The annals of dentistry will find a place for that remarkable polymath Edmund Wilson and the great pleasure which he took in the toes of a friend, Ann Miller. "It seemed natural and pleasantly sensuous," he records in 1969. "This all seems rather odd for me at 75. The situation has comic possibilities. Three of my old upper row of false teeth came out, and Ned had to put them back. I don't want to spoil by my attentions to his wife, my relations with the best dentist I ever had."

Vulnerable health and ardent sexuality had long marched in tandem through the five decades of Wilson's journal, as they would for two final years. Belatedly issued here, the thousand pages of *The Sixties* are a centenary tribute to Wilson, who died in 1972. So much had Wilson done and so beset was he by worry, not least tax demands, that there are many moments when he appears far older. He spurned a pacemaker as "the latest medical fad".

Not that this diminishes the vigour of a decade which begins with that magnificent study of the Civil War, *Patriotic Gore*, and continues with work on the Iroquois, Canada, the Dead Sea Scrolls and much else. Published over the past 20 years, the journals parallel and amplify the work and the travels.

Christopher Hawtree

THE SIXTIES
By Edmund Wilson
Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £21.99

Wilson is sometimes likened — for his criticism, dull fiction and unorthodox domestic arrangements — to Cyril Connolly, with whom he was friendly: his is a plainer style than Connolly's, but more beguiling: where Connolly was forever writing on the same subjects, Wilson was eager for new territory, in his last years learning Hungarian. This does not preclude a certain elegaic tone: summer retreats upstate to the old family home at Talcotville; rereading childhood favourites, such as Macaulay and R.H. Barham; discussing Wagner with Wystan Auden.

Olympian as Wilson's books and essays might appear, the journals show that literature was but part of a complex life, one no less energetic for being suffused in alcohol. According to Dawn Powell's forthcoming diaries, he thought one section of his early journals "the greatest love story ever written". They are hardly that — the abiding impression is that he gets stuck in, not on, these many women — but their interest is manifold.

He thought himself a man of the Twenties: "Drinks, animated conversation, gaiety: an uninhibited exchange of ideas." This volume has some of his most vivacious gossip. Wilson turned down the invitation to Truman Capote's celebrated masked ball at the Plaza in 1965 for which others would have killed. But he did go to a White House gathering for Malraux and saw the Frenchman fall asleep to the sound of Isaac Stern and Schubert. Never was John F. Kennedy more acute than in his dismissal of official objections when Wilson's name came up for the Medal of Freedom: "This is not an award for good conduct but for literary merit."

Suffering and the little children

FEW PEOPLE have had a great reputation snatched so savagely from them posthumously as did Bruno Bettelheim. He died, by his own hand, in 1990 at the age of 87. For the 30 years that he was director of the Orthogenic School in Chicago, he was hailed as a miracle-doctor. His writings about his experiences in Dachau and Buchenwald, on autism, on children and the importance of fairy tales had won him worldwide respect — although he had his detractors, too, especially towards the end of his life.

But the avalanche of virulent hatred directed towards him after his death was unforeseen and shocking. Bettelheim acquired the nickname "Brutalheim", as allegations of viciousness towards his autistic charges were levelled against him.

This not only tarnished his reputation, but swamped it. In the weeks I have been carrying around this biography, all that anyone has asked me, seeing the name emblazoned on the cover, is: "Did he or didn't he beat his children?" A lesser biographer would have tilted her researches towards that very question, realising that the story of Bettelheim's life is a juicier one if the answer is: yes, he did. It is part of Nina Sutton's gift that she addresses herself fully to this issue, but honestly. That is to say, she is seeking to understand her subject, not to apologise for or to attack him. It is refreshing to come across a biographer who treats her subject with respect and compassion.

Nigella Lawson

BRUNO BETTELHEIM
The Other Side
of Madness
By Nina Sutton
Duckworth, £25

She is willing to believe — as indeed he did not privately deny — that Bettelheim did smack the children in his care, but she gently shows how many of the more savage attacks against him, for outright brutality, might be suspect. But, more importantly, she is anxious to understand what might lie beneath behaviour that seems to us so contrary to his whole outlook.

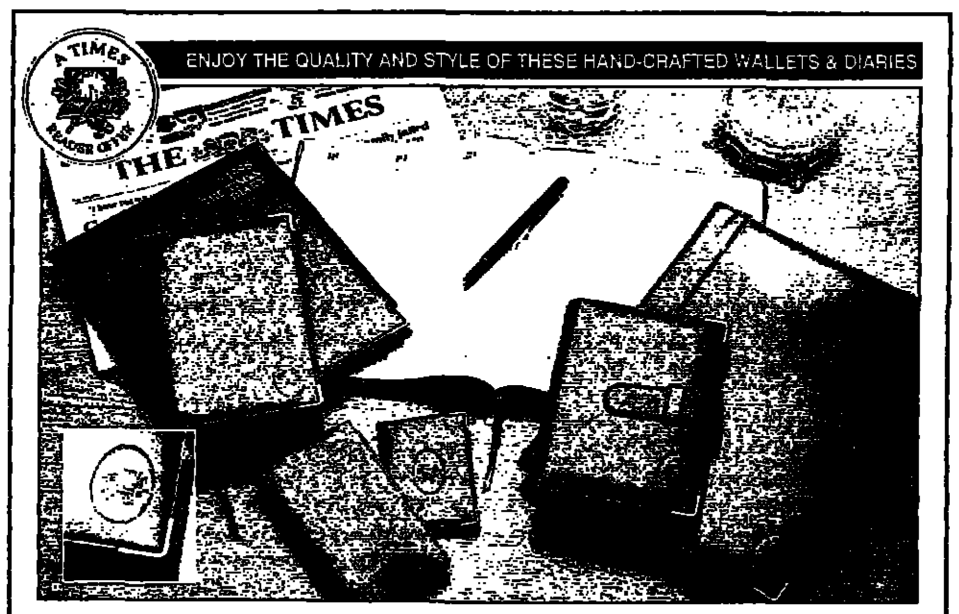
Throughout his life, Bettelheim made a connection between his time in the concentration camps and the suffering of the children sent to him at the Orthogenic School. Specifically, he thought his experiences made him especially sensitive to the needs of autistic children, and Sutton concentrates on his writing about the concentration camps to find out why he might have used violence towards these children. On such a subject, any simplification runs the risk of horrible distortion. What Bettelheim wrote about the camps was that, despite the unfathomable humiliation he endured there, despite the fact that it showed the utter degradation of mankind, he learnt to stand on his own two feet. This view, too, shocked people; and he came to realise that, had he been in an extermination camp such as Auschwitz, he might not have written thus.

Bettelheim: kind or cruel?

But that is how he felt. Moreover, he wrote that somehow it was the brutality of his guards which prevented his inner turmoil, his inner hopelessness, the self-loathing from winning out. An external enemy to hate, to garner one's strengths against, kept him whole, when he felt in mortal danger of disintegration. Sutton suggests that Bettelheim was on occasion attempting to fill the role of the enemy without for his pupils, so that they could fight a little less the enemy within. The danger here is that the argument seems too pat. Sutton is not attempting anything as facile as an easy explanation, but to piece together and honestly convey his life and work.

This is a large book, written with deep concern for honesty and integrity, but also with a lightness of touch that makes it a pleasure to read. Few writers place one so much at the heart of the subject without intruding on him at the same time. It is Sutton's delicacy that prevents her from writing extensively about Bettelheim's relationship with his wife and children. Out of respect for his children — and perhaps at their request — she was not able to do so, although it would have served her aims.

This is one of many books due to be published about Bettelheim, but I doubt if there will be another to match it for scholarship, human insight and sheer readability.



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Clive Fisher on how a Southern youth fled home to become a great American dramatist

Hanging on to the streetcar of desire

In the well-paid world of American letters, friendship is a fragile thing; and in the many legends of disaffection which encrust transatlantic literary lore Gore Vidal seems ever prominent, if not as a protagonist then as a ringside spectator. His recent memoir, *Palimpsest*, described some of his disillusionments but reminded us simultanously that his friendship with Tennessee Williams endured longer than most before the frost inevitably descended.

What spell can Williams have cast? We do not learn; but it is illuminating to read Vidal's opinion that what impelled the dramatist's artistry was a need to possess his own life, to reassemble the sad shards of experience into an aesthetic whole that was at once satisfying, controlled and permanent.

TOM
The Unknown Tennessee Williams
By Lyle Leverich
Hodder & Stoughton, £25

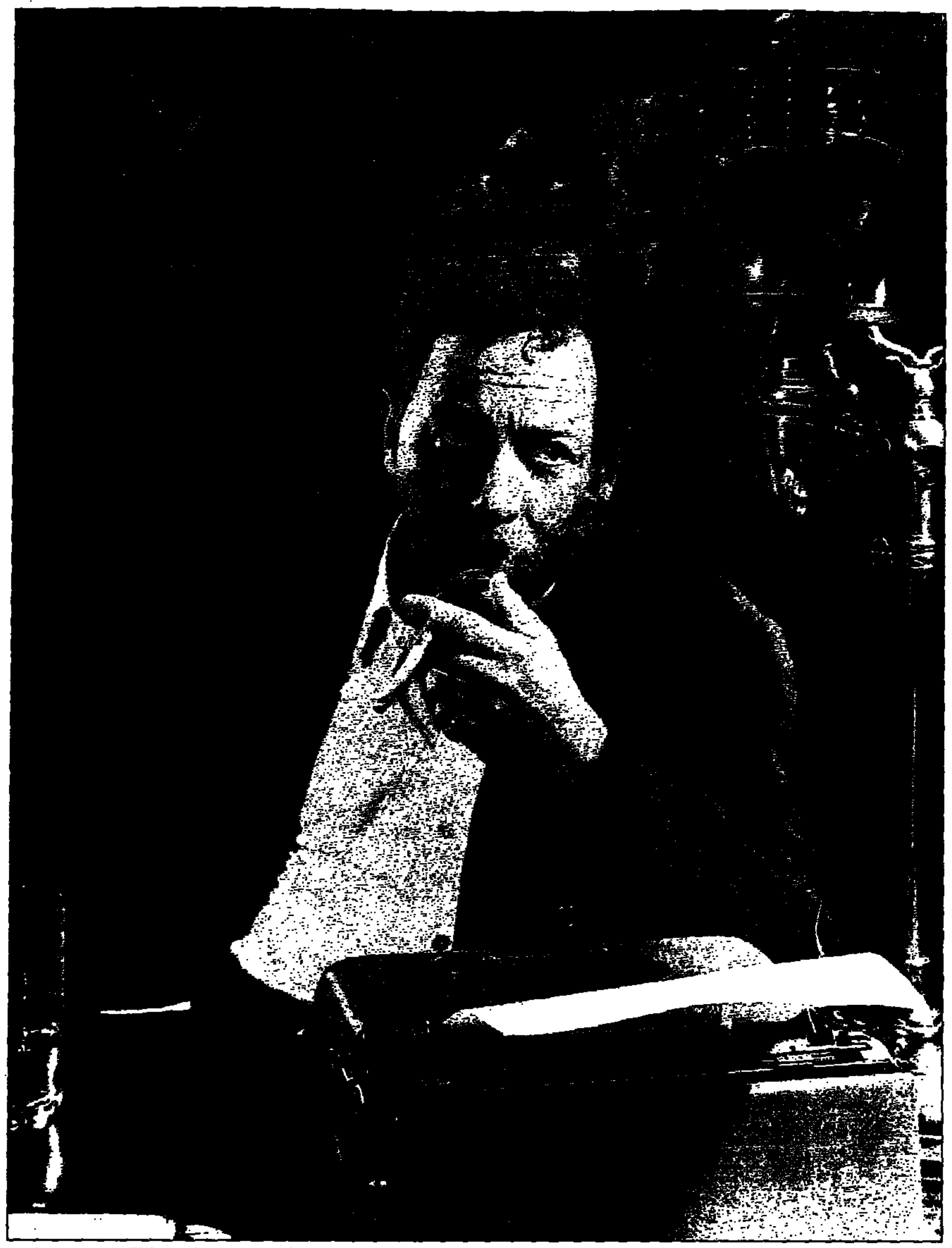
Numerous writers reinvent the past; but the remarkable aspect of Williams's life was the extent to which experience lent itself to vivid fiction and symbolic interpretation. His formal education was unsettled: at school he was timid and tormented as a sissy; his university career was disrupted and inglorious.

It never mattered. Life's primary lessons — of sexual repression, sham gentility, imagined homelands, dark apartments, drink and loneliness — were extra-curricular yet inescapable and impressed themselves upon a literary imagination that began to struggle for expression when Williams was 12. For years the only book of significance in his life was the collected poems of Hart Crane. Years later, to honour the poet he revered above all others, and as though in affirmation of life's symbolic possibilities, he directed that posthumously his body should be committed to the sea at the spot where Crane had drowned.

Thomas Lanier Williams was born in Mississippi in 1911, the proud legatee of a genealogy which associated distinguished Welsh, English and German blood, besides incorporating a saint and a family of Tennessee pioneers. But the glory was bygone: his father, Cornelius, was a travelling salesman who inherited little except alcoholism; his mother, Edwina, had a history of mental illness on both sides of her family.

She was the daughter of an itinerant preacher, and although she grew up in Ohio, an interlude in Tennessee convinced her of the romance of the cotton belt. Thereafter she acted unwaveringly the part of the Southern Belle, complete with drawl and ante-bellum gentility; her famous son was thus an exile before he was born. Having produced three children, Edwina resisted her husband's further advances, turning his offspring against him and against sex. Their daughter, Rose, died a virgin; Tennessee remained one for 27 years. After the couple moved to St Louis, Cornelius — already a distant father — drank more and worked harder and Rose descended into incurable schizophrenia, to undergo a lobotomy in 1943.

Tom mainly addresses Williams's understandable need to leap clear of the crucible of home life. (Metaphors of flight persist in his drama; now we know why.) The inspired change of name at 27 implied a wish to outmanoeuvre the present: and the incessant writing, encouraged by Edwina, fed the world of private fantasy it also drew on. Later there would be analysis and serious drinking; but even in his twenties, to combat his nervous instability and self-doubt, Williams became dependent on alcohol, black coffee and barbiturates.



Tennessee Williams by Karsh: his unhappy early years were the crucible in which his imagination was refined

The other release, once he had left home and was just about surviving in New Orleans, Manhattan and Los Angeles, was sex; but indulgence created as many problems as it solved. Periods of frenzied gratification involved being beaten up by sailors and twice suffering crabs. (He was too poor to buy the necessary insecticide.) Yet when desirability and availability did coincide, in the Apollonian form of a dancer named Kips Kiernan, Williams lost him first to a woman and then to a brain tumour. No wonder homosexuality seemed to him "a wound that never heals".

A rare gift is required to reduce such a sensational story to tedium; but that is precisely the qualification Leverich has brought to his task, to which he was appointed by Williams himself in 1979. This volume, recording only the obscure early years, is repetitive, shapeless, over-detailed and badly written, an indigestible pabulum without leavening or attic salt. Its sequel, now in preparation, can only be an improvement.

Shadows of remembrance

Alison Dye has lived and worked in Ireland for the past eight years, but her fiction is firmly rooted in the United States where she grew up. Her first novel, *The Sense of Things*, which was shortlisted for a Whitbread award just a year ago, takes place in small-town New Jersey. This new book, *Memories of Snow*, explores the social upheaval war brings to a closely knit farming community in upstate New York. Both works reflect preoccupations that have shaped Dye's professional life as a social worker — a fascination with the minds of men and women who have been forced to the limits of human endurance.

Raymond Smith, the troubled protagonist of this powerful new story, has been indelibly scarred by loss, most vividly the hideous wartime death of an adored younger stepbrother. He returns from the Battle of the Bulge to the smallholding he calls home — his girlfriend, Barbara Jean, has borne a child in his absence, but she refuses to give up her independence for marriage. A passive, broken man, Raymond resorts to binge drinking to leach intrusive memories of war from his mind. When Barbara Jean suddenly dies, the possibility of also losing four-year-old Lucy to unlikeable in-laws precipitates Raymond's return to action — and ultimate tragedy.

Frances Stead Sellers

MEMORIES OF SNOW
By Alison Dye
Sceptre, £9.99

TRINITY FIELDS
By Bradford Morrow
Flamingo, £15.99

Dye's subject matter could hardly be grimmer, but she leavens her novel with the engaging black humour that is becoming her trademark. Shirley, Barbara Jean's overbearing sister-in-law (and heiress to the profitable local funeral parlour), aspires to the tragi-comic role of wicked stepmother. Childless (though not for want of effort), Shirley resolves to make Lucy over in her own distasteful image, replacing the grubby familiarity of the farm with starched frocks and formal meetings with the recently bereaved — a role Shirley herself had starred in as a child when her father first made a success of the family business.

Comedy yields inexorably to a more disturbing reality. However loathsome Shirley may be, a disturbed alcoholic hardly seems like a suitable guardian for a child. There can be no happy ending.

Dye's use of what is now widely termed post-traumatic shock disorder as a literary device is reminiscent of Pat Barker's First World War trilogy. Yet there is a trap for fiction of this sort: characters who fulfil the expectations of behavioural psychology threaten ultimately to follow set patterns of action. Barker maintains suspense by demonstrating how very individual each victim was. Dye has treated Raymond Smith a little too much like a case study.

William McCarthy and William Calder, the hero and antihero of Bradford Morrow's third novel *Trinity Fields*, are born a mere 11 hours apart in the idyllic mountain hideaway of Los Alamos, between the Christmas of 1944 and the new year that marks the birth of the Atomic Age. Known as Brice and Kip, they are "counterparts like same-gender yin and yang, like the light of chiaro and the dark of oscuro". Morrow's Manichaean juxtaposition of the two provides *Trinity Fields* with its diagrammatic structure — and its ultimate flaw. Symbols rarely make convincing characters; and throughout their prolonged searches for self-discovery, the young men remain mere foils for one another.

Brice and Kip are aware of their fathers' hushed complicity in the Manhattan project and its deadly "gadget": their teenage escapades pale beside this guilty secret. They come of age during another feast of death, Vietnam. Brice becomes an anti-war activist; Kip joins the Reserve Officer Training Corps.

Their separation — both philosophical and physical — provokes the novel's central problem: "How does a man compromise when what he believes and who he loves are at utmost odds, without losing one's integrity and wholeness?" The question speaks not only of friendship, but of that peculiarly American preoccupation with loving one's country, and having a country worthy of that love.

Morrow's detailed attention to the novel's landscape almost compensates for the weak characterisation and rambling plot. The secret community of Los Alamos is like some intriguing Marxist experiment, cordoned off from the rest of the world by fences and armed guards, where telephone conversations are routinely monitored, and letters posted unsealed for the benefit of censors. But neither this nor Kip's cloak-and-dagger activities in Laos can hold a reader's attention through more than 400 pages of literal-minded self-analysis: an elaborate exercise in working through the author's own ill-defined generational angst.

Frances Stead Sellers is Deputy Editor of Civilization, *the Washington-based magazine of the Library Of Congress.*

Wetbacks' comeback

Amanda Craig

THE TORTILLA CURTAIN
By T. Coraghessan Boyle
Bloomsbury, £15.99

The "Tortilla Curtain" is the name given to the border which Mexicans have to penetrate to get to the promised land of California. When Delaney Mossbacher, "liberal humanist" and Californian environmentalist, accidentally hits Candido, a Mexican "wetback", with his freshly-waxed Japanese car, the consequences lead the two men — yoked by misfortune, ignorance and prejudice — to ruin each other's lives. This, Boyle's sixth novel, examines America's guerilla war between haves and have-nots with a zing unequalled since Tom Wolfe's *Bonfire of the Vanities*.

For Delaney and Kyra, his second wife ("the undisputed volume leader at Mike Bender Reality, Inc."), the promised land means a vacuum-sealed existence of tofu-kebabs and high-tech hypocrisy at the Arroyo Blanco Estate. For Candido and his pregnant teenage wife, America, it means scratching a feral existence in a land polluted by greed. Satirising the life of the Californian middle classes is all too easy to do, and Boyle sets about it with the relish of a coyote among turkeys. Delaney and Kyra are rivetingly frightful: "Joggers, non-smokers, social drinkers, and if not full-blown vegetarians, people who were conscious of their intake of animal fats."

Did this anonymous girl cross the Rio Grande, like so many of her compatriots? From Henri Cartier-Bresson's *Mexican Notebooks*, 1934-64 (Thames & Hudson £18.95)

Every nuance of their hellish sincerity is exquisitely rendered, yet interleaved are uncomfortable questions: why should California be providing jobs when it has a 10 per cent unemployment rate? Why should the haves be forced to live with the have-nots? The ironies of a self-interested middle class versus a desperate underclass are rendered with even-handed malice, particularly in Delaney's nature column, worthy of comparison with that of the immortal Boot, and a Mexican-style estate in which a wall is built by illegal immigrants to keep themselves out.

It is in describing the life of the Mexicans that Boyle rises above satire. Candido, at first too emblematic, takes on a convincing depth and anger as, beaten, cheated and derided he staggers on, indomitably resourceful and improbably honest. America gets work scrubbing stainless with corrosive cleaner, and is later raped by two syphilitic immigrants. Her sufferings are even more heart-rending than Candido's, because she — and her baby — are so innocent.

Both the title and the subject echo Steinbeck. Yet where *Tortilla Flat* revealed the humanity of poor immigrants, even allowing them occasional happiness, Boyle is relentless — landslide piled on top of fire, not one moment of compassion. The ironies of America's extremes are so pointed that they need careful handling in order to avoid jabbing into either journalism or polemic. Though this may be the most depressing novel of 1995, it is a measure of Boyle's gifts that it is also one of the most memorable.

WEEKEND BOOKS

Death in Nigeria — the last days of Ken Saro-Wiwa: his *Detention Diary* reviewed by Tunku Varadarajan, with Christmas selections of the best books on drink and travel, plus paperbacks and teenage fiction

Tidings of late comfort

Kate Hubbard

MR IVES' CHRISTMAS
By Oscar Hijuelos
Bloomsbury, £14.99

IN CONTRAST to the exuberant, sexy *The Mambo Kings Play Songs of Love*, Oscar Hijuelos's previous, Pulitzer prizewinning novel, readers will find that in this, his fourth, the volume has been turned down, the keynote is melancholy and the flesh has given way to the spirit (though passion is submerged rather than absent). Geographically the territory is familiar — the changing face of New York City, and especially its Hispanic community, from the 1940s through to the present.

For Mr Ives, eponymous hero and devout Catholic, Christmas is a time for Christian celebration. It also marks events which shape his life: it is at Christmas that he is adopted from a foundling home by Mr Ives Senior; at Christmas that he begins his love affair with, and later marries, the luscious Annie Maguire; at Christmas that his seventeen-year-old son Robert is shot by a trigger-happy Puerto Rican boy.

Until this tragedy life has been good to Mr Ives. With his "damaged heart and lofty ideals", he is a man touched by sadness. Nevertheless he is "pleased by the general drift of his life" — his love for his family, his prosperous, if unspectacular career in an advertising agency, the trappings of the American Dream. Then Robert, shortly after declaring his intention of becoming a priest, is killed.

For the next thirty years, during which his hair turns white, his heart to stone, and he becomes a stranger to his wife, Ives mourns. He goes to Mass, he continues with his charity work, he even corresponds with, and later meets, his son's killer. Yet it is only during a trip to England, as an old man, that he experiences some relief. It is here too, off his home ground, that Hijuelos's writing momentarily strays into cloying descriptions of quaint inns, babbling brooks and rose bowers.

The fact that the novel avoids the limitations of the morality tale is partly due to the charm which accompanies and sweetens all this saintly virtue, and partly to Hijuelos's gift for catching the breadth and pulse of humanity and the life of a city. He is generous with details — of clothing, jazz albums, lunchtime sandwiches — which create a sense of the fabric of daily life. The particular is placed within the general (alongside Ives' tragedy are others equally random) and the extraordinary within the ordinary.

To write a novel which stands as a paean to the power of Christian faith and human goodness is certainly unfashionable and possibly foolhardy. Yet *Mr Ives' Christmas* succeeds in being sentimental but not mawkish, moral but not moralising. It is a most touching and humane tale.

Survival of the singular

Erica Wagner

SPINSTERS
By Pagan Kennedy
Serpent's Tail, £8.99

When Frannie and Doris's father dies the day after the assassination of Martin Luther King, it seems at first as if nothing will change. Now in their thirties, they have taken care of him all their lives, never marrying and running the family business. Once he is gone, they plan to drive down from their small New Hampshire town to their Aunt Katherine in Virginia, and there form a kind of community of spinsters, a haven of peace in a turbulent world.

For Frannie, the narrator of this delightful novel, is happy to be a spinster. Love, when it comes, feels like a bad case of gas, always uncomfortable, never quite right, and certainly never as safe as the peaceful rhythms of a solitary life. But Doris is different. Doris is two years older, wears short skirts, smokes, and sometimes stays out all night. It is Doris who pulls her sister away from their sheltered life and onto the highway towards the expanse of the western desert.

It is true that Frannie's transformation has an air of inevitability about it. Some of the conflict that takes place between the two women — Frannie's extreme discomfort in a low-life bar set against Doris's recklessness, or her detection of "the scent of sin" in the perfumed halls of a department store — is perhaps too obvious. But the novel is lifted out of this simplistic vein by the undercurrents of memory and discovery that stir the story and its characters and make it an incisive original.

For with the subtle language of emotion repressed for many years, their real story emerges. Now not only spinsters but orphans too, they are free, in the hurtling confessional of their powerful car, to remember the pain of growing up during the war with their father a conscientious objector, and to reassess the meaning of their mother's relentless cheerfulness. The realisation that they have the world before them doesn't bring instant freedom; pleasure is still qualified. "At least we're not as old as we could be," says Doris. It is this gradual readjustment of perspective that makes Pagan Kennedy's tale so affecting. And it is no mean feat — particularly in a first novel — to set characters against the large canvas of assassinations and elections and allow them to affect the story but never overwhelm it.

Ever since Ridley Scott put two lonely women in a big car and sent them across America, this particular scenario inevitably conjures the names Thelma and Louise. But *Spinsters* is both sharper and gentler than the scorched desperation of that film. Frannie and Doris aren't meant to be larger than life; but they have in them the breath of authenticity.

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Behaviour of French side under scrutiny

BY DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

EUROPEAN Rugby Cup Limited, the organisers of rugby union's fledgling Heineken Cup, will have to consider vigorous action after the scenes that marred Swansea's 22-10 victory over Castres at St Helen's on Tuesday night. One player was sent off, the referee was threatened and various French officials encroached on the playing area during the game.

Mike James, the Swansea chairman, said he had never seen comparable scenes in British rugby. Pierre Yves-Revol, the Castres president, marched to the centre of the pitch at the interval after the award of 19 penalties to Swansea and none to Castres and he waved his players to come off after the dismissal, for punching, of the replacement lock, Guy Jeannard.

Charles Muir, the Scottish referee, from Langholm, was escorted off by police and stewards at the close but several of the French visitors could not contain their frustration as Castres were eliminated on points difference.

Jeannard was subsequently suspended for 30 days, but the report of Roy Loughead, the match commissioner from Ireland and a former headmaster, will be studied anxiously by tournament organisers. They have worked hard to inaugurate a European competition designed to improve playing standards and generate money from sponsorship and television.

John Hart was yesterday appointed as coach of New Zealand in succession to Laurie Mains. Hart had twice been turned down for the position, losing out to Alex Wyllie in 1988 and Mains in 1992 and 1994.

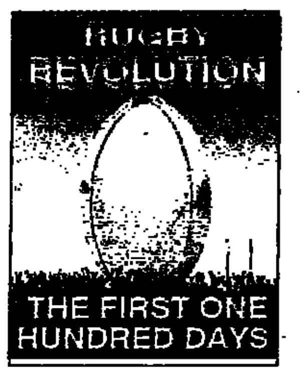
Hart, 50, will be New Zealand rugby's first professional coach, with a salary package reported to be about £82,000 a year.

Reward of hidden treasures awaits Rugby Man 2000

*Much has happened in the hundred days since rugby union was declared open and the future remains uncertain. To conclude our three-part series **Andrew Longmore** talks to Lawrence Dallaglio, who as one of England's emerging talents, is well placed to voice the concerns of the new model professional player after the revolution*

I asked Lawrence Dallaglio, the talented young captain of Wasps, what he understood by "professionalism". He talked instinctively and understandably about money. "It means your main source of income will come from rugby and rugby-related activities," he said. "The problem," he added, "is that if you want to pay the bills, it's going to come from money earned through rugby and therefore some players' outlook on training and diet will have to come more in line with that of a professional sportsman."

Provided he stays fit and maintains the form which yesterday earned him a place in the England team to play Western Samoa — his first cap was as a replacement in the defeat by South Africa last month — Dallaglio will be at the forefront of English rugby's official hunt for Treasure Island. Bright, presentable and, at the age of 23, frighteningly businesslike, he is well equipped to lead the search. The mobile phone is at hand, the answers to questions, brisk. After the full stop, he juts his chin out a little and fixes you with blue-green eyes. This is Rugby Man 2000. He even said "take it game by game" without the hint of a smile.



Dallaglio has spent the morning reading about property development in preparation for his final exams in Urban Estate Management next spring and the prospect of another appointment at 1pm is beginning to tax his patience with the photographer. He bears up well, good practice for the future, but you suspect the England flanker is a man who looks at his watch a lot.

Yet he refuses to be photographed in front of his fellow students in the canteen at the University of Kingston, which suggests either a becoming sense of modesty, an acute awareness of his own dignity or a surprising lack of confidence. More a combination of the first two, I think.

In an ideal world, Dallaglio would have wanted to join rugby's gravy train once the wheels had started turning. Now, He finds himself amid the hustle and bustle of departure as clubs decide how much money they have, the players how much money they want and the controllers of the Rugby Football Union (RFU) wave a profusion of red and green flags and obstinately refuse to blow the whistle.

"There is a lot of shadow boxing going on at the moment in terms of transfers because no one wants to be the first member of the England squad to come forward and say this is what I'm worth, this is what I'm staying for or moving for. What's going to become clear soon is whether individuals will have to take their own cases to their clubs or the RFU or whether there will be a collective tier system with every player paid on his status. In football, differentials are the norm.

"Price on application", as estate agents say. So what might a potential 10-year England man like Dallaglio be worth? £40,000 a year to England and, according to the flourishing financial grapevine, £60,000 a year to Wasps. By 2006, Dallaglio could be the first official money-on-the-table pay-per-play rugby millionaire. The thought is smothered at birth. "I wouldn't dream of thinking about it."

Wasps have been smart, anyway, giving him the captaincy after Rob Andrew's move to Noewcastle, to ward off rival bids. Dallaglio has had two offers from other clubs, but "nothing too serious," he added.

Dallaglio is frighteningly businesslike and, at 23, ready for the professional game

What is certain is that when his degree course ends next summer, Dallaglio will become a professional rugby player. There is no hint of doubt or regret about the decision. At 6ft 4in and 16½st, he has the right build for the future, fast and powerful, a match for the supermen of the southern hemisphere. But professionalism is as much about attitudes as cash and an education at public school — in this case, Ampleforth — is perhaps not the ideal place for learning the art.

When making mistakes costs jobs not matches, the usual banter of post-match recrimination can be drowned by the accusatorial whispers of players looking after number one. Priorities change and rugby, where the gap between the haves and have-nots will be embarrassingly wide, will be prey to the new selfishness.

"If you're going to be a professional sportsman," Dallaglio said. "You've got to channel all your energies into that, dedicate yourself to your sport and promote yourself within your sport. And if it's money you're after, try to earn as much as possible in a short space of time."

Dallaglio trains twice a week with Wasps, once with England and three or four times on his own. "If I was full-time I would be quicker and stronger. I would be able to increase my training and make it specific to my position. I don't think I'll get bored. Provided you're well organised and keep fit, there will be plenty of time for other activities. I think I'll enjoy my rugby more because I'm being paid."

With that he is away, tugged by ambition. To Dallaglio, rugby has been a therapy, after the death of his sister on the Marchioness six years ago, it has been his hobby and his love, now it is set to be his life. Whether it will be good life, like most things in rugby these days, no one can predict.

OPEN RUGBY'S FIRST 100 DAYS

Aug 27: International Board declares rugby union an open game
Aug 29: Mike Catt styles himself England's first full-time rugby player
Aug 30: Will Carling, England captain, advises players to keep day jobs
Sep 1: John Allen resigns as honorary secretary of Leicester
Sep 4: Newcastle United announce merger with Newcastle Gosforth
Sep 7: RFU announces season-long moratorium; New Zealand RFU announces free gangway for rugby league players
Sep 8: South African RFU announces moratorium on transfers
Sep 13: French rugby to stay "amateur"
Sep 14: Tony Underwood, England wing, turns "semi-professional"
Sep 19: English clubs form first-division company
Sep 21: Rob Andrew appointed director of rugby at Newcastle
Oct 1: International Board approves gangway between league and union codes
Oct 5: Sir John Hall, chairman of Newcastle United, meets Tony Hallett, RFU secretary
Oct 11: Bristol announce conditional contracts for players
Oct 18: Dean Ryan, Wasps captain, joins Newcastle as administrative assistant
Oct 19: Rob Andrew retires from international rugby and leaves Wasps
Oct 24: Kerry Packer alleged to be planning breakaway club tournament
Oct 31: Jonathan Davies leaves Warrington rugby league club and returns to Wales as a Cardiff player
Oct 31: Martin Bayfield, England lock, takes five-year sabbatical from police to concentrate on rugby; Tony Underwood leaves Leicester for Newcastle; Welsh internationals Mike Hall and Gareth Llewellyn sign provisional forms for Wasps
Nov 1: London Broncos play on Harlequins' rugby union ground
Nov 6: English first-division clubs seek £1 million each in new money
Nov 7: Businessman Nigel Wray to invest £2.5 million in Saracens; RFU Commission on restructured game recommends late-season five nations' championship, European and Anglo-Welsh leagues
Nov 17: RFU approves payment for national team management
Nov 28: RFU vetoes return of John Gallagher, former All Black and rugby league player, to play rugby union
Nov 30: Businessman Keith Barwell to invest £1 million in Northampton
Dec 5: Matches proposed between Bath and Wigan

Classic is put into scrapyard by Ford

BY MEL WEBB

ONE of the most enduring tournaments on the European women's golf tour has been held for the last time. The Ford Classic, which has been part of the circuit since 1982, does not appear on the 1996 Women Professional Golfers' European Tour schedule which was released yesterday, although four new events do.

Ford's withdrawal comes at a time of unprecented success for European women's professional golf — the first three places in the world rankings are occupied by Laura Davies, of Britain, and Annika Sorenstam and Liselotte Neumann, both Swedes.

In spite of Ford's withdrawal, Terry Coates, the chief executive of the tour, can still derive satisfaction from a tournament list with a prize fund nudging £3 million.

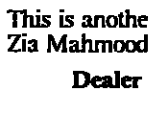
"American Express, the tour's first overall title sponsor, have acknowledged that their first year's association with the tour has been a tremendous success," he said. "This is a marketing partnership that can only go from strength to strength."

The four new events are the Deesse Swiss Open in June, the McDonald's WPGA championship in Scotland in August, the Compaq Open three weeks later in Sweden and the Three Nations Cup in Belgium in October.

The highlights of the season are the £500,000 Weetabix Women's British Open at Woburn on August 15-18 and the Solheim Cup match against the United States at St Pierre, on September 20-22.

MAY: 2-5: Welsh Open, St Pierre, Chepstow. 10-12: Costa Azul Open, Aroeira and Quinta do Peru, nr Lisbon, Portugal. 24-26: Dutch Open, venue to be announced. June: 7-9: Ford-Stimorol Danish Open, Vejle, Denmark. 13-16: Deesse Swiss Open, Maison Blanche, nr Geneva. 19-22: Evian Masters, Royal Evian, France. 27-30: Austrian Open, Vienna. July: 4-7: Hennessy Cup, Cologne, Germany. 25-28: Guardian Irish Holidays Open, Dublin, venue tba. Aug: 8-11: McDonald's WPGA championship, venue tba. 15-18: Weetabix Women's British Open, Woburn. 22-25: Trygg Hansa Open, Haninge, Stockholm, Sweden. 29-Sept 1: Compaq Open, Orebro, Sweden. Sept: 20-22: Solheim Cup, Europe v United States, St Pierre, Chepstow. 26-29: Maredo Open, Treudelberg, Hamburg, Germany. Oct: 3-6: Three Nations Cup, Henri-Chapelle, Belgium. 10-13: Italian Open di Sicilia, Il Picciolo, Sicily. 17-20: French Open, venue tba. 24-27: Spanish Open, Hyatt La Manga, Spain. Dates to be confirmed: Wilkinson Sword English Open, The Oxfordshire; Scottish Open, Dalmahoy.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE



BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

This is another example of squeeze end-play. I was South with Zia Mahmood my partner in the TGR £100 game.

Dealer South **Love all** **Rubber bridge**

North:
♠7
♥K Q J 10 7 5
♦Q 9 6
♣K Q 10

West:
♠K Q 10 5 4
♥6
♦K J 10 5
♣J 7 3

East:
♠8 6 3 2
♥9 4 2
♦8 3 2
♣9 8 2

South:
♠A J 9
♥A 8 3
♦A 7 4
♣A 6 5 4

Contract: 6 NT by South. Lead: King of Spades

I opened One Club and West (the proprietor) overcalled One Spade. After I had rebid 3 NT over Zia's Two Hearts, we found our way to Six Hearts, Zia using Blackwood on the way. West surprisingly doubled. Fearing that West was void in clubs, Zia switched to 6 NT.

On the lead of the king of spades, East played the three. I had 11 tricks on top (one spade, six hearts, one diamond and three clubs). I took the spade and cashed two rounds of clubs, noting with annoyance that West followed; it now seemed likely that West's double of Six Hearts was based on holding the king of diamonds, so Six Hearts would have made.

I continued by running the hearts. On the fourth round, East discarded the two of spades. You might think that I should have cashed the remaining hearts, discarding spades and diamonds from hand, and relied on the clubs being three-three — that was not necessary as I trusted East's spade high-low. The peter indicated he had started with an even number of spades, almost certainly four. That meant that West started with five spades. As West's club length was later revealed on the ace of clubs, the declarer was able to get a perfect count on West's hand.

On the last three hearts I discarded a spade, a diamond and a club; my last four cards were the jack of spades, ace and a small diamond and the ace of clubs. West's five discards on the hearts had been three spades and two diamonds. Then, when West followed to the ace of clubs (more annoyance since playing for the club break would have succeeded), I worked out that his last three cards were the queen of spades and king and a small diamond.

So, I exited with the jack of spades and took the last two tricks with ace and queen of diamonds. Provided West has five spades and the king of diamonds, South can always end-play him (or drop the king of diamonds), however West discards.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

CAPELINE
a. Goatlike
b. A steel skull-cap
c. Wen on horse's hock

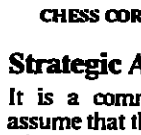
COTTEREL
a. A small fish
b. A bird
c. A bolt or pin

COLOPHON
a. A metrical foot
b. A tailpiece
c. A loudspeaker

CHYME
a. Stomach pulp
b. A peal of eight bells
c. A mountain crack

Answers on page 46

KEENE on CHESS



BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Strategic Attack

It is a common mistake to assume that the only openings which are capable of yielding lasting attacks are those king pawn openings - based on starting with 1 e4. Typical openings include gambits such as the King's, Evans and Scotch. One of the true arts of a grandmaster is to create a slashing attack from the more strategic queenside openings. In these, the pawn structures tend to be fixed. In particular, the Queen's Gambit Declined establishes a firm bulwark against most White aggression.

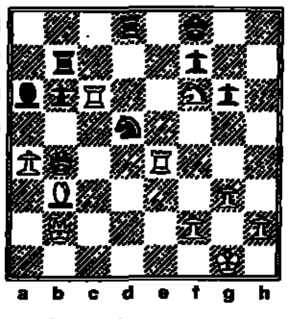
In the following game from the Belgrade tournament Vladimir Kramnik demonstrates how attacking chances can be generated against this rock-like defence. Kramnik launches a war of lightning strokes and the conflagration eventually spreads itself towards the domain of the black king.

White: Vladimir Kramnik
Black: Jan Timman
Belgrade, November 1995

Queen's Gambit Declined

1	Nf3	Nf6
2	c4	e6
3	Nc3	d5
4	d4	Nbd7
5	cxd5	exd5
6	Bg5	c6
7	e3	Be7
8	Bd3	Nh5
9	Bxe7	Qxe7
10	0-0	0-0
11	Qb1	Nhf6
12	b4	Re8
13	Rc1	a6
14	a4	g6
15	Qb2	a5
16	bxa5	Rxa5
17	Nd2	Ng4
18	Nb3	Qd6
19	g3	Ra7
20	e4	dxe4
21	Nxe4	Qf8
22	Re1	b6
23	Nbd2	Ba6
24	Bc2	Rb7
25	Bb3	Ngf6
26	Rac1	Rc8
27	Nxf6+	Nxf6
28	d5	Nxd5
29	Ne4	Rd8
30	Rxc6	Qb4
31	Nf6+	Kf8
32	Nxh7+	Kg8
33	Nf6+	Kf8
34	Re4	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



McShane Loses

11 year old Luke McShane lost his game against Garry Kasparov in the Intel Internet Challenge. Facing ten opponents worldwide, Kasparov won seven and drew three. In a favourable position McShane committed a horrible blunder and left a rook where it could be captured with check.

Times World Championship Book

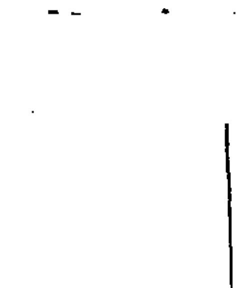
All games of the world title match are now available with commentary by Raymond Keene in a Times book, World Chess Championship: Kasparov v Anand (Batsford £9.99). Credit card orders on 01376 327901 (please quote 5/655).

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Almasi - Watson, Germany 1995. In this position, White played the clever 1 Rxf7 (if Black captures this rook, he is swiftly mated) and after 1 ... Qd4+ 2 Qxd4 he went on to win. However, he could have played an even stronger first move. Can you see it?



Solution on page 46

SPORTS LETTERS

Professional approach to the future of rugby

From Mr Steve Turner

Sir, The recent Rugby Football Union (RFU) commission report on open rugby undoubtedly went a great way to assuage the doubts of those people who felt that the RFU was incapable of making such changes now that the game has gone open. The appointment of Tony Hallett as secretary is, without question, one of the best pieces of administrative work that the RFU has done for many a year. However, admirable as the report was, it appears to suffer from three critical shortcomings. Firstly, it does not address the shortcomings that are rapidly becoming apparent in northern hemisphere rugby; secondly, it does nothing to ease the transition from club to international rugby; and, thirdly, there is no mechanism in place for national coaches to develop the style of play that they wish for their team.

I would submit that the only way for this to happen is to have a co-ordinated, pan-European approach to these problems; only then will we be able to produce the quality of rugby that (a) the paying public deserve and (b) will be able to defeat regularly the southern hemisphere nations.

Accordingly, I would propose that a European districts cup is established with each of the five nations putting forward four teams. These 20 teams would be split into five groups, with one region from each country per group, who would then play on a round-robin basis. To ensure that a national policy was adhered to, these teams would have coaches who would be employed by their respective countries, would pick players in their national positions and would be playing, ideally, to the national style.

These four group matches would be played in December, with the top two teams from each group playing the final matches in January, prior to the five nations' championship.

Below this there would be a mirror image with similar regional teams from Italy, Romania, etc. The winners of those groups would then play off with the bottom teams of the primary competition for promotion/relegation.

This would leave a European season of national league matches in September/October, international "one-offs" and tour matches in November, European league in December and January, with the remainder of the national league and cup scheduled from December to April. The five nations' would then start in the late February and be held on the Saturday and Sunday of alternate weekends. In television terms, this would lead to an excellent marketing opportunity of watching the top European regional teams in a competitive envirnoment, prior to the five nations', and the respective national league and cup competitions. If sufficient money cannot be negotiated from such events, then rugby will never go truly professional in any sense of the word.

Yours etc.,
STEVE TURNER,
Glenrose,
Gordon Road,
Curdridge,
Hampshire.

Sporting chance

From Mr Ian Wheater

Sir, You quote (In Brief, November 30) Tom Kite, newly appointed American Ryder Cup golf captain, as saying "The No 1 responsibility, going beyond the sportsmanship and the tradition, is to get that Cup back over here where it belongs, in the United States."

Hopefully, Tom Kite, who has always seemed a most gracious golfer, is under no illusion as to the spirit in which the Ryder Cup should be played, but if he is, I trust the respective PGAs, who agree the conditions of the match, will not stipulate that winning shall take precedence over sportsmanship.

Yours sincerely,
IAN WHEATER,
16, Westbury Road,
Warminster,
Wiltshire.

Sports Letters may be sent by fax to 071-782 5211. They must include a daytime telephone number.

Scaling heights

From Mr R Kemp

The jumping abilities of the Watussi (Bryant's Eye, November 30) were raised in the athletics press in the 1950s when "clearances" of more than seven feet were recorded and where sloping ground and termite hills were also involved. These discussions led to the use of high-jump shoes with built-up soles which were outlawed because they afforded two advantages: physical elevation and an additional stretch-reflex imparted to the calf muscles.

In your photograph, it is almost certain that the rope is barely six feet higher than the take-off point but, given the inefficient clearance, the competitor has possibly raised his centre of gravity to about 6ft 9in. It is doubtful if, from level ground, he could have cleared 6ft 6in. It is still good jumping but perhaps not the world-shattering peformance that your text implies.

Yours faithfully,
R E KEMP,
83, Loscoe Road,
Nottingham.

From Mr Mick Midson

Sir, Michael Dalton (Sports Letters, November 30) is correct to suggest that, in this tough old world of ours, partners and fellow directors might "have a go" at each other in private.

However, it would never be done in front of the customer(s), and anyone behaving so unprofessionally should expect to be disciplined in some manner.

Yours etc,
MICK MIDSON,
38, Glendale,
Hemel Hempstead,
Hertfordshire.

Net gains of LTA coaching

From Mr Richard Lewis

Sir, While recognising the efforts of the Lawn Tennis Association to raise standards at grassroots level in this country through its newly launched development strategy, Clive Ashford (Sports Letters, November 30) questions the standard and motivation of British coaches.

Only two weeks ago Great Britain overwhelmed Sweden 42-14 in a junior international; this year we produced world champions in the under-14 boys category and have recorded wins over Germany, Spain, France, Holland, United States and Australia. These victories have been recorded by juniors coached individually by British coaches through the Rover Junior Tennis Initiative.

For a number of years, the LTA has recognised the need to blend our best British coaches with the very best from overseas. That is why we have Ian Barclay, Olga Morozova, Sharon Walsh and Peter Fleming on our payroll.

The irony is that Mr Ashford himself was sufficiently motivated to join the 200 coaches last week who came to listen to lectures from the Spanish director of coaching at the conference of the Professional Tennis Coaches Association. British tennis coaches are improving, are in touch with world standards and delivering results.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD LEWIS,
Director of National Training and Coaching,
Lawn Tennis Association,
Queen's Club,
West Kensington, W14.

☐ *The views expressed by Mr Ashford were his own and were not representative of the Kent county coaches committee.*

MATCHES PLAYED 2ND DECEMBER 95
LITTLEWOODS POOLS SPONSOR
THIS WEEK 116,220 PRIZES PAID OUT TO WINNERS EVERYWHERE
TREBLE CHANCE
24 Pts £743.05
23 Pts £34.30
22 Pts £2.60
4 DRAWS £2.40
10 HOMES £49.25
5 AWAYS £1,318.00
EVERY WEEK ALL COUPONS ARE CHECKED AND ANY WINNINGS ARE PAID AUTOMATICALLY
FOR COUPONS PHONEFREE 0800 500 000

هكذا من الأصل

صورة من الاصل

Intended withdrawal of Jodami solves big-race jockey problem

Dwyer to ride One Man at Haydock

BY JULIAN MUSCAT

JULIAN HERBERT

Dwyer will take over the mount from Dobbin on the exciting One Man in the Tommy Whittle Chase at Haydock Park on Saturday

BY RECENT standards, the jockeys' merry-go-round for rides in the key races quickly ground to a halt when Mark Dwyer inherited the mount aboard One Man in the Tommy Whittle Chase on Saturday.

Dwyer became available when Jodami, whom he routinely rides, was yesterday announced as a non-starter in the Haydock Park contest in favour of the Rowland Meyrick Handicap Chase at Wetherby on Boxing Day.

Dwyer has thus been handed the opportunity denied him when One Man was a late defection from the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup 12 days ago. The jockey was to have replaced the injured Tony Dobbin at Newbury but incesssant rain forced One Man out of the race. The grey's connections will be hoping the fates do not intervene for a second time on Saturday.

Colder weather is forecast around Haydock, where the ground is "good". A spokesperson said racing could have been staged there yesterday but more snow is forecast for tomorrow. A high-class two-day meeting is scheduled to start tomorrow at Cheltenham, where the forecast frost yesterday failed to materialise. They could have raced at Prestbury, too, and hopes are high that the Bula Hurdle and Tripleprint Gold Cup will go ahead.

William Hill reported Champion Hurdle money for both Mysilv and Atours in advance of their clash with Large Action in the Bula Hurdle on Saturday. Mysilv is 8-1 from 12-1 while Atours contracted to 10-1 from the same price. Large Action, who had 1½ lengths in hand of Atours on their recent Ascot encounter, meets the David Elsworth-trained gelding on 9lb worse terms this time.

Charles Egerton, who trains Mysilv, has been searching for a jockey to ride the mare throughout the season. Jamie Osborne has done regular duty but he is contracted to Large Action. Egerton, who expects to finalise arrangements today, reported Mysilv fit and well for her imminent assignment after she bypassed the Fighting Fifth Hurdle at Newcastle 12 days ago.

"Her blood wasn't quite right before that race and basically we didn't want to take a chance," the trainer said. "It was nothing serious, she had a quiet week and that seems to have done the trick."

Egerton estimates that Mysilv needs to find improvement of some 14lb to win a Champion Hurdle. "You'd say she has made physical progress to look at her, although you can't really tell how that will translate on the racecourse," he said.

Tests taken from Master Oats have failed to reveal the reason for his dismal showing at Chepstow on Saturday, when he was pulled up early in the home straight. But the Cheltenham Gold Cup winner may yet return to Chepstow for the Coral Welsh National on December 27, for which he was yesterday allotted topweight of 12 stone. The sponsors quote him at 7-1 for the marathon, alongside Superior Finish.

Earth Summit, a distant second to Master Oats in the Welsh National last year and, more recently, disappointing in the Hennessy, is Coral's 5-1 favourite. The firm then bets: 8-1 Lo Stregone and Willsford, 10-1 Cache Fleur and Miinnehoma, 12-1 Nuaffe, Tartan Tyrant, Midnight Caller, Grange Brake and Flyer's Nap and 14-1 bar. Of the 44 entrants, Master Oats is among only eight in the handicap proper. His defection would prompt a minimum 4lb rise in the weights, leaving Miinnehoma at the head of the handicap.

A panel of racing journalists has voted Lammtarra the Racegoers' Club's 1995 Racehorse of the Year. Lammtarra triumphed by 16 votes against nine cast for the Breeders' Cup Mile heroine, Ridgewood Pearl. In another poll, members of the Racegoers' Club came down in Lammtarra's favour by an overwhelming margin. The son of Nijinsky cornered eight times as many votes as Ridgewood Pearl, with Double Trigger, Halling and Pentire also earning places in the top five.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: VISAGA
(2.50 Taunton)
Next best: Mt Rundle
(1.50 Taunton)

Thunderer continued his good recent form when selecting Time Clash, a 25-1 winner at Lingfield Park yesterday.

CHEPSTOW WEIGHTS

CORAL WELSH NATIONAL HANDICAP CHASE: Master Oats, 9 years, weight 12st 0lb, Miinnehoma 12-11-3, Willsford 12-10-11, Nuaffe 10-10-7, Commercial Artist 9-10-4, Riverside Boy 12-10-3, Earth Summit 7-10-3, Cache Fleur 9-10-2, Chatam 11-9-12, Tartan Tyrant 9-9-11, Black Humour 11-9-11, Sibton Abbey 10-9-10, Flyer's Nap 9-9-9, Lo Stregone 9-9-7, Midnight Caller 9-9-6, Superior Finish 9-9-6, Grange Brake 9-9-1, Plassic Spaceage 12-9-0, Well Briefed 8-8-12, Capability Brown 8-8-11, Gold Cap 10-8-11, Lucky Lane 11-8-11, Arthur's Minstrel 8-8-9, Don't Tell The Wife 9-8-9, Clyde Ranger 8-8-8, Suny Bay 6-8-6, Yorkshire Gale 9-8-6, Vicompt De Valmont 10-8-6, Silver Stick 8-9-6, Toogood To Be True 7-8-5, Front Line 8-8-3, Mr Flanagan 9-8-3, Mad Thyme 8-8-3, Camelot Knight 9-8-3, Veleda II 8-7-13, Three Brownies 8-7-13, Taramoss 8-7-13, Terao 9-7-12, General Wolfe 8-7-11, Florida Sky 8-7-5, Cythere 11-7-5, Change The Reign 8-6-11, Andros Prince 10-6-6, Lanthall Princess 9-6-0.

TAUNTON

THUNDERER
12.50 Norman's Convinced
1.20 Take By Storm
1.50 Fionans Flutter
2.20 Fortunes Course
2.50 Visage
3.20 NORDIC VALLEY (nap)

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101	113143	GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0	B West (7)	88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing. F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: GOOD SIS

12.50 CHARD SELLING HURDLE (£1,760: 3m 110yd) (9 runners)

101	01444-P	NEW TRIBE 15 (B,BF,S) (C Robery) J White 4-11-5	A P McCoy	98
102	04431P/	MISS PIMPERNEL 556 (D,F) (D Hazzard) A Barrow 5-11-1	D Salter (5)	–
103	4420-10	SOUL TRADER 7 (V,BF,G) (G Hacking) N Babbage 6-11-1	D Matthews (5)	86
104	540UP4	FORCING TWO 26 (N T-Davies) N Twiston-Davies 4-11-0	C Llewellyn	90
105	24R46	KING ACRYLIC 19 (Mrs A Burton) R Brotherton 4-11-0	L Harvey	77
106	2/00P3-3	NORMAN'S CONVINCED 36 (Somerset White Lining) M Pipe 5-11-0	D Bridgwater	[illegible]
107	0-0	PEGASUS 15 (V) (R Lloyd) W G M Turner 5-11-0	M Griffiths (7)	–
108	60/R	TIPPING ALONG 21 (D Gandolfo) D Gandolfo 6-11-0	D Leahy	–
109	6	TRAPEZE 19 (C Popham) C Popham 4-11-0	T Dascombe (5)	–

BETTING: 6-4 Norman's Convinced, 7-2 Forcing Two, 5-1 King Acrylic, 7-1 New Tribe, 8-1 Soul Trader, 12-1 Trapeze, 14-1 others.

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

MISS PIMPERNEL beat Holdiggity ½l in 8-runner claiming hurdle at Perth (3m 110yd, firm) on penultimate start, May 1994. SOUL TRADER beat Cavisa neck in 6-runner novice handicap hurdle at Leicester (2m 4f 110yd, good) on penultimate start. FORCING TWO 24l 4th of 8 to Little Blackfoot in selling handicap hurdle at Market Rasen (2m 1f 110yd, good to soft). KING ACRYLIC about 22l 6th of 13 to Borrismore Flash in selling handicap hurdle at Nottingham (3m 110yd, good to firm). NORMAN'S CONVINCED 21¼l 3rd of 8 to Persian View in claiming novice hurdle at Newton Abbot (3m 3f, good to soft) with KING ACRYLIC (16lb worse off) distant 4th and FORCING TWO (8lb worse off) pulled up before 2 out. TRAPEZE 27¼l 6th of 15 to Tamandu in selling novice hurdle at Towcester (2m, good).
Selection: NORMAN'S CONVINCED

1.20 STOKE ST MARY NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£3,518: 2m 3f) (12 runners)

201	50000/	COUNTRY PARSON 575 (H Porter) J McConnochie 6-12-0	R Bellamy	–
202	00806-U	PAGET 14 (G) (J Olds) P Nicholls 8-11-13	A P McCoy	–
203	U24606-	HANGOVER 188 (G,S) (R Edwards) R Lee 9-11-11	R Greene	94
204	22140U	FENWICK 9 (F,S) (A Pearn) R Hodges 8-11-10	T Dascombe (5)	86
205	4/4F53-F	TAKE BY STORM 21 (Mrs R Blackburn) R Buckler 6-11-8	B Powell	92
206	20/F43P-	COOLREE 243 (F) (B Weston) P Nicholls 7-11-7	Guy Lewis (3)	80
207	100-60F	WISE STATEMENT 14 (G) (M Humby) G Balding 6-11-7	J Frost	–
208	04P0/51	DURRINGTON 9 (S) (Mrs S Elphick) M Bolton 9-11-5 (7ex)	P Hide	84
209	26-5225	EMRAL MISS 17 (BF) (Mrs J Bennett) C Popham 7-11-1	M A Fitzgerald	85
210	22-442P	DUNKERY BEACON 3 (B) (G Kinson) H Howe 9-10-12	Mr R Thornton (7)	96
211	040P2-P	NIKAROO 13 (BF) (Mrs C Janaway) J King 9-10-7	G Upton	[illegible]
212	05-0UUP	DONT RISE ME 10 (M Churches) M Churches 6-10-0	W McFarland	–

Long handicap: Dont Rise Me 9-10.

BETTING: 9-4 Durrington, 5-1 Paget, 6-1 Take By Storm, 8-1 Fenwick, Coolree, 10-1 Hangover, Wise Statement, 12-1 others.

1994: KIBREET 7-11-5 S McNeill (4-1) L Cottrell 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

FENWICK best recent effort 4½l 4th of 15 to Millies Own in novice handicap chase at Exeter (2m 1f 110yd, good to firm). TAKE BY STORM 3½l 3rd of 4 to Mr Geneaology in novice chase here (2m 110yd, hard) on penultimate start.
WISE STATEMENT 28l 6th of 8 to Mr Woodlark in handicap hurdle at Exeter (2m 3f, good to firm) on penultimate start. DURRINGTON beat Colonel Colt 10l in 10-runner novice handicap chase at Fontwell (2m 2f, soft). EMRAL MISS 6l 2nd to Gospel in 5-runner novice chase at Wincanton (2m, good to firm) on penultimate start. DUNKERY BEACON 14l 2nd of 8 to Man Mood in amateurs handicap chase at Hereford (2m 3f, good to soft). NIKAROO 7l 2nd of 6 to Stormy Petrel in novice chase at Huntingdon (2m 4f 110yd, good to firm) on penultimate start.
Selection: DURRINGTON

1.50 MENDIP PLYWOOD NOVICES HURDLE (£3,648: 2m 1f) (14 runners)

301	6026-15	MERLINS DREAM 40 (CD,F) (W Watt) O Sherwood 6-11-7	M Richards	81
302	04	CHILI HEIGHTS 7 (V) (B Attenborough) G Balding 5-11-0	B Clifford	78
303		EBONY BLAZE 49F (Le Club Racing) C Wildman 4-11-0	A Tory	–
304	2	ETHBAAT 28 (Fayzad Thoroughbred Ltd) W Muir 4-11-0	B Powell	85
305	10/246-	FIONANS FLUTTER 271 (S) (R Wright) D Elsworth 7-11-0	A Procter (3)	[illegible]
306		FIRST CLASS (G Alford) G Alford 5-11-0	R Greene	–
307		FRIAR STREET 80F (BATS) C Mann 5-11-0	A P McCoy	–
308	0-	GARNWIN 239 (Pioneer Heat-Treatment) N Henderson 5-11-0	M A Fitzgerald	–
309		LUCKY EDDIE (I Shaw) P Hobbs 4-11-0	C Maude	–
310		MONEGHETTI 125F (P Harvey) M Pipe 4-11-0	D Bridgwater	–
311		MT RUNDLE (Mrs H Clarke) K Bailey 6-11-0	C Llewellyn	–
312	P	RAINBOW ROAD 3 (405200 Racing) M Pipe 4-11-0	J Lower	–
313		SHOW FAITH 47F (I Wight) R Hannon 5-11-0	G McCourt	–
314	46	SILENT GUNS 22 (Lord Clinton) C Egerton 6-11-0	J A McCarthy	–

BETTING: 2-1 Show Faith, 5-1 Merlins Dream, 6-1 Fionans Flutter, 8-1 Moneghetti, 10-1 Mt Rundle, Ethbaat, 14-1 Friar Street, 16-1 others.

1994: CHERYL'S LAD 4-10-12 M Fitzgerald (11-10 fav) N Henderson 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

MERLINS DREAM beat Speaker's House 7l in 10-runner novice hurdle over course and distance (good to firm) on penultimate start. CHILI HEIGHTS 8l 4th of 12 to Teinein in novice hurdle at Windsor (2m, good to soft). ETHBAAT 3½l 2nd of 7 to Trade Wind in novice hurdle over course and distance (good to firm). FIONANS FLUTTER 26l 4th of 9 to Balanak in grade II Dovecote Novices Hurdle at Kempton (2m, heavy) on penultimate start. GARNWIN 19l 9th of 21 to Equilent Equuname in NH Flat race at Worcester (2m, good). SILENT GUNS 14l 4th of 24 to Andanito in NH Flat race at Newbury (2m 110yd, good).
Selection: MERLINS DREAM (nap)

2.20 GAY SHEPPARD MEMORIAL CHALLENGE TROPHY HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,566: 3m 110yd) (11 runners)

401	2111/0P	HAPPY HORSE 15 (D,F,G,S) (I Manning) R Hodges 8-11-13	T Dascombe (5)	–
402	12P-316	JADIDH 15 (C,F,G,S) (D Hazzard) C Wildman 7-11-12	D Salter (5)	88
403	23120-1	FORTUNES COURSE 15 (D,G,S) (Mrs A Barrett) J King 6-11-12	G Upton	88
404	3/0/46-5	RIVER ISLAND 14 (C,S) (White Horse Partners) J Old 7-11-11	T Grantham	90
405	0100-31	LEAD VOCALIST 47 (G,S) (A Pratt) R Rowe 6-11-9	D O'Sullivan	92
406	2112/P	COOL CLOWN 15 (G,S) (Mrs P Browne) M Pipe 8-11-5	D Bridgwater	–
407	120/P-6F	STORM DRUM 15 (B,D,F,G,S) (Mrs S Fergusson) K Bailey 6-11-3	A Thornton	–
408	1353-03	ROYAL PIPER 15 (S) (A Darlington) Mrs J Renfree-Barons 8-11-1	A Tory	94
409	61-2416	TOUR LEADER 13 (CD,F) (P Jones) R Buckler 6-11-1	B Powell	84
410	6-R33PP	SPECIAL ACCOUNT 12 (CD,F,G,S) (T Fiorillo) C Barwell 9-11-0	A P McCoy	90
411	20462/P-	GORT 192 (CD,G,S) (J Harman) J Harman 7-10-2	Miss E J Jones (7)	[illegible]

BETTING: 7-2 Fortunes Course, 4-1 Lead Vocalist, 5-1 Royal Piper, 6-1 Jadidh, 8-1 River Island, 10-1 Tour Leader, Storm Drum, 12-1 others.

1994: LANSDOWNE 6-10-12 G Tormey (4-1 fav) G Ham 16 ran

FORM FOCUS

JADIDH beat Hold Your Ranks head in 15-runner handicap hurdle at Newton Abbot (2m 6f, soft) on penultimate start. FORTUNES COURSE beat Couture Stockings 2½l in 10-runner handicap hurdle at Windsor (2m 6f 110yd, good) with HAPPY HORSE (12lb better off) pulled up before 2 out. RIVER ISLAND 20½l 5th of 8 to Secret Four in handicap hurdle here (2m 3f 110yd, good). LEAD VOCALIST beat Go Ballistic 2l in 4-runner handicap hurdle at Worcester (2m 4f, good). STORM DRUM 47½l 6th of 8 to Master Of the Rock in handicap hurdle at Market Rasen (3m, good to soft) on penultimate start. ROYAL PIPER 13l 3rd of 18 to Kasar in handicap hurdle at Chepstow (3m, soft) with JADIDH (5lb worse off) 33½l 6th and COOL CLOWN (4lb better off) pulled up before 7th. TOUR LEADER beat Copper Coil 10l in 7-runner novice hurdle over course and distance (good to firm) on penultimate start.
Selection: FORTUNES COURSE

2.50 DUNSTER HANDICAP CHASE (£3,518: 3m) (11 runners)

501	515-22P	DESERT RUN 25 (S) (Reynolds Family) P Nicholls 7-12-0	A P McCoy	[illegible]
502	41/FF3-4	VISAGA 25 (D,F,S) (L Hellstenius) N Twiston-Davies 9-11-12	C Llewellyn	98
503	01222-4	POWDER BOY 28 (CD,BF,F,G) (D Hurford) R Hodges 10-11-9	T Dascombe (5)	91
504	3F-0F55	SCOTONI 14 (F,G,S) (D & D Robinson) R O'Sullivan 9-11-4	B Powell	90
505	0U-F1U3	CERTAIN ANGLE 20 (F,G,S) (Plydorn Syndicate) P Hobbs 6-11-3	C Maude	98
506	4P1223/	DEEPENDABLE 576 (V,D,G) (R Stone) Mrs L Richards 8-10-13	M Richards	–
507	3/P41U-5	ALICE SMITH 10 (D,G,S) (Mrs J Eckley) B Eckley 8-10-12	W McFarland	90
508	5-61330	GREEN WALK 17 (F) (C Cornwell) R Rowe 8-10-9	D O'Sullivan	91
509	0PU-PP0	GABISH 6 (F,G) (B Scriven) B Scriven 10-10-0	Mr R Thornton (7)	–
510	F/P6P0P-	TEARFUL PRINCE 225 (C Mitchell) C Mitchell 11-10-0	G Upton	95
511	34/0P-P5	APARECIDA 6 (M Griffin) M Griffin 9-10-0	R Davis	–

Long handicap: Gabish 9-2, Tearful Prince 8-11, Aparecida 8-8.

BETTING: 9-4 Visaga, 5-1 Certain Angle, 6-1 Desert Run, Deependable, 8-1 Scotoni, Powder Boy, Alice Smith, 12-1 others.

1994: CREGG BOREEN 7-11-7 C Maude (9-2) P Hobbs 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

DESERT RUN 6l 2nd of 5 to Far Senior in handicap chase at Warwick (3m 2f, good) on penultimate start. VISAGA 19l 4th of 10 to Florida Sky in handicap chase at Cheltenham (3m 1f, good to soft) with DESERT RUN pulled up before 3 out. POWDER BOY 20l 2nd of 9 to Castle Blue in handicap chase at Southwell (3m 110yd, good to firm) on penultimate start. SCOTONI 42½l 5th of 7 to Duhallow Lodge in handicap chase over course and distance (good). CERTAIN ANGLE best recent effort beat Cool Character 1l in 13-runner novice handicap chase at Exeter (2m 6f 110yd, good to firm). DEEPENDABLE 8¼l 3rd of 11 to Squire Jim in novice chase at Chepstow (3m, good to firm) May 1994. GREEN WALK best recent effort 10l 3rd of 9 to K C's Dancer in amateurs handicap chase at Cheltenham (3m 1f 110yd, good to firm).
Selection: VISAGA

3.20 BICKNOLLER HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,556: 2m 1f) (6 runners)

601	413112	NORDIC VALLEY 12 (C,D,BF,F,G,S) (Pond House) M Pipe 4-11-10	D Bridgwater	98
602	130104-	THE CAUMRUE 258 (G,S) (On The Run Partners) G Balding 7-11-8	A P McCoy	98
603	10162-6	BOLD ACRE 25 (D,S) (Mrs M Morgan) D Burchell 5-11-6	D J Burchell	91
604	01F333	HAVE A NIGHTCAP 14 (B,CD,F,G,S) N Littmoden 6-11-0	M Richards	94
605	240013-	FLEUR DE TAL 7F (D,F,G) (J Woods) W G M Turner 4-10-13	T Murphy (7)	98
606	036U-0U	SPORTS VIEW 14 (D,S) (J Warnes) R Hodges 6-10-5	J Frost	[illegible]

BETTING: 2-1 The Caumrue, 5-2 Nordic Valley, 5-1 Have A Nightcap, 6-1 Fleur De Tal, Sports View, 7-1 Bold Acre.

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

NORDIC VALLEY short-head 2nd of 6 to Viardot in claiming hurdle at Haydock (2m 4f, good). THE CAUMRUE about 4l 4th of 14 to Eurolink The Lad in handicap hurdle at Newbury (2m 110yd, good). BOLD ACRE about 28l 6th of 12 to Windward Ariom in conditionals handicap hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 110yd, good to soft). HAVE A NIGHTCAP 11l last of 3 to Most Equal in handicap hurdle at Wincanton (2m, firm) on penultimate start. FLEUR DE TAL 4l 3rd of 6 to Fabulous Princess in handicap hurdle over course and distance (hard).
Selection: NORDIC VALLEY

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
N Babbage	3	8	37.5	J Lower	7	28	25.0
J Old	5	15	33.3	M Richards	9	37	24.3
W Muir	3	9	33.3	G McCourt	5	23	21.7
J King	5	18	27.8	J R Kavanagh	6	29	20.7
C Egerton	3	11	27.3	A P McCoy	5	25	20.0
M Pipe	41	166	24.7	D O'Sullivan	3	19	15.8

NOTTINGHAM

THUNDERER
12.30 Wakt. 1.00 Mill Thyme. 1.30 The Boiler White. 2.00 Castle Sweep. 2.30 Zaitoon. 3.00 Callisoe Bay. 3.30 St Mellion Drive.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.00 CASTLE SWEEP.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (CHASE COURSE): GOOD (HURDLES) SIS

12.30 PLUMTREE CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,807: 2m 5f 10yd) (7 runners)

1	1-01	WAKT 16 (F,S) J White 5-12-0	P McLoughlin	96
2	0-P2	BARRYBEN 19 W Brisbourne 5-11-13	R Massey	94
3	/5-0	TREWEETHAN 15 Mrs S Austin 6-11-10	E Husband	90
4	2-54	TARGET LINE 7 (S) Mrs S Smith 5-11-8	R Wilkinson (3)	98
5	6-30	ITS GRAND 7 J Bradley 6-10-2	R Johnson	95
6	05P0	THE CHAIRMAN 16 F Jordan 4-10-0	Sophie Mitchell	85
7	0-PP	CHUKATEN 148 (V) J Mackie 6-10-0	G Lee	[illegible]

6-4 Wakt, 3-1 Target Line, 5-1 Barryben, 8-1 Treweethan, Its Grand, 10-1 others.

1.00 TOLLERTON JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (£2,990: 2m) (25)

1	561	WISDOM 8 (V,D,F) K Morgan 11-5	A S Smith	97
2		ABINGER 31F Miss M Rowland 10-12	Gary Lyons	–
3	4	ACQUITTAL 48 (V,BF) J Mackie 10-12	T Eley	78
4		BEAU MATELOT 153F Miss M Milligan 10-12	R Guest	–
5	0	BOOST 19 Mrs N Macauley 10-12	S Wynne	–
6	3	DALLY BOY 8 M H Easterby 10-12	L Wyer	96
7		GYMCRAK HERO 17F G Holmes 10-12	M Dwyer	–
8		HADABET 86F Miss J Doyle 10-12	S Curran (3)	–
9		KEEN TO THE LAST 69F M Hammond 10-12	Mr C Bonner (3)	–
10	0	LORD FREDERICK 14 Miss S Wilton 10-12	A Large (7)	–
11	4	NORDIC BREEZE 14 A Bailey 10-12	T Kent	86
12	P	PARK RIDGE 7 T Mills 10-12	S Ryan (7)	–
13		PEUTETRE 77F F Jordan 10-12	J Lodder	–
14	P	RUSSIAN RIVER 6 J Bridger 10-12	W McFarland	–
15	U	SHERAZ 12 N Tinkler 10-12	W Marston	–
16		SILVER SLEEVE 49F M Hammond 10-12	R Burns (7)	–
17		THAT OLD FEELING 56F J White 10-12	D Bentley	–
18	0	THREE WILD DAYS 12 T Tate 10-12	R Garritty	–
19		TROUBADOUR SONG 73F W Haigh 10-12	D Byrne	–
20	0463	WANSTEAD 26 J Jenkins 10-12	G Bradley	86
21	04	ZINGIBAR 7 J Bradley 10-12	R Johnson (5)	95
22	42	MILL THYME 23 Mrs M Reveley 10-7	G Lee (3)	[illegible]
23		OKAY BABY 5F J Bradley 10-7	P McLoughlin	–
24	0	SOUPREME 12 Mrs M Reveley 10-7	P Niven	–
25		TONYS GIFT 44F M Pipe 10-7	J Osborne	–

3-1 Tonys Gift, 4-1 Mill Thyme, 6-1 Wisdom, 8-1 Acquittal, 10-1 Dally Boy, 12-1 Hadabet, 14-1 others.

1.30 STAN MELLOR HANDICAP CHASE (£2,861: 3m 3f 110yd) (7)

1	5/PP	STUNNING STUFF 12 (B,F,G) T George 10-12-0	R Johnson (5)	–
2	4113	PAPER STAR 24 (BF,F) M Muggeridge 8-11-10	Mr J Culloty (7)	93
3	0-P2	THE BOILER WHITE 33 (CD,F,S) T Thomson Jones 7-11-9	W Marston	92
4	1413	THE BUD CLUB 12 (B,F,G) K Bailey 7-11-4	J Osborne	[illegible]
5	02FP	TIME ENOUGH 25 (S) C Brooks 6-10-11	G Bradley	94
6	2211	COLUMCILLE 17 (F,G) R Alner 9-10-6	Mr P Henley (5)	92
7	P326	LA FONTAINBLEAU 15 (F) D Brown 7-10-0	G Tormey (3)	75

9-4 The Bud Club, 5-2 Columcille, 4-1 Paper Star, 5-1 Time Enough, 8-1 The Boiler White, 20-1 La Fontainbleau, 25-1 Stunning Stuff.

2.00 OLIVER SHERWOOD NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE (£2,912: 2m) (13)

1	1-11	CASTLE SWEEP 13 (G,S) D Nicholson 4-11-5	P Niven	[illegible]
2	2-14	KEEP IT ZIPPED 19 (D,BF,F) O Sherwood 5-11-5	J Osborne	94
3	3	CLEVER BOY 19 J Curtis 4-10-12	L O'Hara	–
4	00	COUNTRY BOY 10 J Bridger 4-10-12	W McFarland	–
5	35-5	FRED'S BOY 24 J White 5-10-12	L Wyer	–
6		GREY STORY 804P A J Wilson 7-10-12	M Dwyer	–
7	0-0	LORD LOFTY 62 Mrs J Pitman 5-10-12	W Marston	–
8	443-	MACGEORGE 234 R Lee 5-10-12	P McLoughlin	–
9	00-1	PEACE LORD 26 (S) Mrs D Haine 5-10-12	G Hogan (3)	–
10	-322	PEGASUS BAY 46 W Haigh 4-10-12	D Byrne	–
11	00-P	PERIROYAL 24 W Clay 5-10-12	J Lodder	–
12		WHO AM I R Alner 5-10-12	Mr P Henley (5)	–
13	0-5	ZITAS SON 28 C Popham 5-10-12	DOUBTFUL	–

4-7 Castle Sweep, 4-1 Keep It Zipped, 12-1 Peace Lord, 14-1 Lord Lofty, 16-1 Pegasus Bay, Who Am I, 20-1 others.

2.30 TYNE HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,832: 2m) (5)

1	P-15	KEEP YOUR DISTANCE 19 (D,BF,F,G) Mrs M Reveley 5-11-10	P Niven	93
2	F544	ZAITOON 14 (B,D,F,G) D Nicholson 4-11-7	W Marston	98
3	41-0	SUIVEZ 173 (D,F,G,S) Mrs N Macauley 5-11-7	R Johnson (5)	96
4	-405	SAINT CIEL 5 (D,G,S) F Jordan 7-11-2	J Lodder	98
5	2-F0	FOX SPARROW 14 (D,S) N Tinkler 5-10-11	A S Smith	[illegible]

6-4 Keep Your Distance, 7-2 Suivez, 4-1 Zaitoon, 6-1 Saint Ciel, Fox Sparrow.

3.00 DAVID NICHOLSON NOVICES CHASE (£3,132: 2m) (4)

1	0-F1	CALLISOE BAY 14 (D,G,S) O Sherwood 6-11-6	J Osborne	[illegible]
2	1/F-	ASK TOM 405 (S) T Tate 6-11-0	R Garritty	92
3	-584	NAGOBELIA 19 (F,G,S) J Pearce 7-11-0	P Niven	50
4	4-10	OLD ALE 23 (F) J Curtis 5-11-0	L O'Hara	–

1-6 Callisoe Bay, 5-1 Ask Tom, 12-1 Nagobelia, 25-1 Old Ale.

3.30 LEVY BOARD MAIDEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,487: 2m) (14)

1		BACHE DINGLE Mrs S Johnson 4-11-7	R Johnson (5)	–
2		BIG THEO Mrs P Duffield 4-11-7	Michael Hunt (7)	–
3	4	EUPHORIC ILLUSION 9 Mrs S Smith 4-11-7	R Wilkinson (7)	–
4	0-	HARRY BOY 327 Mrs J Pitman 6-11-7	S Knott (7)	–
5		LIBERTARIAN O Sherwood 5-11-7	Mr A Harvey	–
6		OPERETTO Mrs S Nock 5-11-7	Mr E James	–
7		RIDING CROP N Henderson 5-11-7	M Lane (7)	–
8		ROYALE CAMERON Mrs F Owen 4-11-7	M W Martin (7)	–
9	0	SEVERN MILL 9 J Bradley 4-11-7	P McLoughlin	–
10		ST MELLION DRIVE M Pipe 5-11-7	O Burrows (7)	–
11	0-0	SUPREME NORMAN 38 J Pickering 5-11-7	DOUBTFUL	–
12	6	DEARDS SMASHER 180 N Smith 6-11-2	Mr N Bradley	–
13	P	JIMSISTER 28 C Nash 5-11-2	G Hogan (3)	–
14	6	MINNAMOO 36 J Pickering 5-11-2	Miss J Wormall (7)	–

5-2 Libertarian, 3-1 Riding Crop, 7-2 St Mellion Drive, 6-1 Harry Boy, 8-1 Euphoric Illusion, 14-1 Operetto, 25-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M H Easterby, 4 winners from 15 runners, 26.7%; K Bailey, 7 from 29, 24.1%; Mrs M Reveley, 8 from 35, 22.9%; O Sherwood, 6 from 27, 22.2%; D Nicholson, 10 from 55, 18.2%; M Pipe, 5 from 33, 15.2%; J Mackie, 6 from 41, 14.6%

JOCKEYS: P Niven, 10 winners from 34 rides, 29.4%; J Osborne, 13 from 51, 25.5%; L Wyer, 6 from 29, 20.7%; M Dwyer, 11 from 65, 16.9%; R Guest, 4 from 24, 16.7%; R Garritty, 3 from 20, 15.0%; T Eley, 6 from 47, 12.8%.

FAKENHAM

THUNDERER
12.10 Cyrus The Great. 12.40 Captain Marmalade. 1.10 Battleship Bruce. 1.40 Hurryup. 2.10 Dr Rocket. 2.40 Artic Wings. 3.10 Can Can Charlie.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 12.10 Westminster. 1.10 BATTLESHIP BRUCE (nap). 1.40 Maneree.

GOING: GOOD (7AM INSPECTION) SIS

12.10 EASTERN DAILY PRESS JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (Div I: £2,545: 2m) (9 runners)

1	211	PROPHETS HONOUR 7 (D,F,S) P Haslam 11-10	M Foster
2	36	BIRTHDAY BOY 13 (B) J Jenkins 10-12	R Supple
3		CYRUS THE GREAT 61F K Bailey 10-12	R Dunwoody
4		GOOD SO FA 12F C Allen 10-12	J F Titley
5		JANE'S SUPER TOP 78F J Pearce 10-12	L Aspell (5)
6	56	KING OF BABYLON 19 Lady Herries 10-12	E Murphy
7	5	MEDIA EXPRESS 26 M Brittain 10-12	D Wilkinson
8		OPERA FAN 68F D Cosgrove 10-12	D Walsh (5)
9	0	WESTMINSTER 13 M Tompkins 10-12	D Gallagher

6-4 Prophets Honour, 3-1 King Of Babylon, Media Express, 6-1 Cyrus The Great, 16-1 Birthday Boy, Good So Fa, Westminster, 20-1 others.

12.40 GB PRINT SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,707: 2m) (13)

1	11-0	FAR OUT 26 (V,D,F,S) O Brennan 8-12-0	M Brennan
2	0-64	FIERCE 2 (V,D,F,S) J Jenkins 7-11-12	J F Titley
3	4146	QUIET AMUSEMENT 14 (D,F) T Clement 4-11-10	N Mann
4	122F	LUCY TUFTY 19 (BF,G) J Pearce 4-11-6	L Aspell (5)
5	3-24	PAIR OF JACKS 2 (BF) D Wilson 5-11-2	B Fenton (5)
6	0522	SALISONG 7 (D,G,S) John Whyte 6-10-13	C Rae (7)
7	-026	CAPTAIN MARMALADE 14 (BF) D Thom 6-10-10	S McNeill
8	P05-	LOFTY DEED 234 (D,S) W Musson 5-10-8	S Keightley
9	P02-	EMERALD VENTURE 192 (D,F,G) F Coton 8-10-8	K Gaule (3)
10	3/50	DOMAIN 14 (B,D,G) R Weaver 7-10-7	D Gallagher
11	PP30	WORDYS WAR 26 L Wordingham 4-10-0	R Farrant
12	0PP/	BUZZARDS CREST 744F Bob Jones 10-10-0	V Smith
13	P-00	VALIANT MAN 17 Miss J Bower 4-10-0	S Taylor (7)

4-7 Fierce, 9-2 Lucy Tufty, 5-1 Pair Of Jacks, 11-2 Far Out, 7-1 Salisong, 8-1 Emerald Venture, 10-1 Quiet Amusement, 12-1 others.

1.10 EASTERN DAILY PRESS JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (Div II: £2,545: 2m) (9)

1		BATTLESHIP BRUCE 41F N Callaghan 10-12	J F Titley
2		DANCE KING 77F R Harris 10-12	R Dunwoody
3		EDEN'S STAR 78F M Tompkins 10-12	D Gallagher
4	2	GOLDWYN 48 Bob Jones 10-12	V Smith
5		HIMALAYAN BLUE 37F J Banks 10-12	S Keightley
6	U4	KREEF 14 R Curtis 10-12	D Morris
7		OUT ON A PROMISE 48F N Walker 10-12	J Railton
8		VERDE LUNA 70F D Arbuthnot 10-12	S McNeill
9	54	LAST SPIN 7 J Jenkins 10-7	R Supple

5-2 Last Spin, 3-1 Out On A Promise, 6-1 Battleship Bruce, Goldwyn, 7-1 Eden's Star, 10-1 Dance King, Himalayan Blue, 14-1 others.

1.40 STEPHENSON SMART HANDICAP CHASE (£3,953: 3m 110yd) (6)

1	PP-P	MATT REID 5 (D,G,S) J Leigh 11-12-0	S McNeill
2	2561	HURRYUP 8 (F,S) R Dickin 8-11-3 (6ex)	R Dunwoody
3	1/2P	RAGLAN ROAD 10 (F,G,S) Miss A Embiricos 11-10-4	J Ryan
4	54-6	MANEREE 20 (D,F,G,S) N Callaghan 8-10-4	J F Titley
5	421-	SPROWSTON BOY 293 (CD,F,G,S) M Chapman 12-10-0	W Worthington
6	4442	VICTORY ANTHEM 24 (F,G) P Clarke 9-10-0	B Fenton (5)

2-1 Hurryup, 7-2 Maneree, 4-1 Sprowston Boy, 6-1 Matt Reid, Victory Anthem, 7-1 Raglan Road.

2.10 L L FIRTH MEMORIAL HANDICAP CHASE (£3,963: 2m 110yd) (4)

1	3432	DR ROCKET 5 (D,F,G,S) R Dickin 10-11-12	D Meredith
2	6225	DRIVING FORCE 7 (B,CD,F,G,S) Mrs M McCourt 9-11-9	J F Titley
3	21P-	RAINHAM 290 (D,S) D McCain 8-10-10	D McCain
4	5/40	PUSEY STREET BOY 13 (F) J Bosley 8-10-0	I Lawrence

Evens Dr Rocket, 5-4 Driving Force, 7-1 Rainham, 8-1 Pusey Street Boy.

2.40 COTTESMORE MARES ONLY NOVICES CHASE (£3,338: 2m 5f 110yd) (4)

1	3P-	ADARE QUEEN 392 Mrs D Haine 7-11-0	J F Titley
2	122-	ARTIC WINGS 189 (F,G,S) O Brennan 7-11-0	M Brennan
3	40/P	L'ENCHERE 25 (F,G) T Clement 10-11-0	J Ryan
4	F-5P	PRIZE MATCH 8 (S) J Tuck 6-11-0	S McNeill

4-6 Artic Wings, 3-1 Prize Match, 7-2 Adare Queen, 8-1 L'Enchere.

3.10 FAKENHAM RACECOURSE CARAVAN SITE HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,363: 2m 4f) (8)

1	1330	STAR OF DAVID 10 (G) Miss A Embiricos 7-12-0	J Ryan
2	5111	CAN CAN CHARLIE 14 (D,F,G) J Pearce 5-11-11	L Aspell (5)
3	500-	GORTEERA 239 (C,G) O Brennan 9-11-10	M Brennan
4	22-0	STRAIGHT LACED 15 (C,D,G,S) P Clarke 8-11-6	B Fenton (5)
5	00-0	PYRAMIS PRINCE 15 (S) John Whyte 5-11-5	R Dunwoody
6	03-3	VICEROY RULER 7 (C,G) J Jenkins 4-11-4	D Walsh (5)
7	3302	BRITANNIA MILLS 35 (F) M Chapman 4-10-5	W Worthington
8	3645	ELLTEE-ESS 14 (B,D,F,G) R Weaver 10-10-0	D Gallagher

7-4 Can Can Charlie, 11-4 Viceroy Ruler, 4-1 Britannia Mills, 7-1 Star Of David, 10-1 Straight Laced, 12-1 Gorteera, 14-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: O Brennan, 8 winners from 24 runners, 33.3%; K Bailey, 6 from 21, 28.6%; M Tompkins, 5 from 24, 20.8%; J Jenkins, 7 from 34, 20.6%; Mrs D Haine, 4 from 22, 18.2%. Only qualifiers.

JOCKEYS: M Brennan, 8 winners from 33 rides, 24.2%; R Farrant, 3 from 16, 18.8%; J Ryan, 4 from 31, 12.9%. Only qualifiers.

Blinkered first time

FAKENHAM: 12.10 Birthday Boy. NOTTINGHAM: 1.00 Acquittal. 1.30 The Bud Club. TAUNTON: 12.50 New Tribe, Soul Trader. 1.20 Dunkery Beacon.

PROSPECTS for today's cards at Taunton and Nottingham are good but there will be a morning inspection at Fakenham. A spokesman said yesterday: "The situation deteriorated at 3pm and, in view of the overnight forecast for snow to settle and accumulate, the stewards decided to hold an inspection." There are at present no problems at Doncaster for tomorrow's meeting, the first day of a two-day weekend fixture, although snow is forecast.

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

Leicester

Going: good to firm (chase course); good to soft (hurdles)

1.00 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, PLUNDER BAY (M A Fitzgerald, 8-1); 2, Twice A Night (W Marston, 7-2); 3, Kadari (J Lodder, 12-1). ALSO RAN: 5-2 fav Jymjam Johnny (su), 7-2 No Light (5th), 12 Bickerman (4th), Ronans Glen (pu), 14 Doctor Death (6th), 100 Escape Talk. 9 ran. NR: Our Slimbridge. Hd, 8l, 3½l, ¾l, dist. N Henderson at Lambourn. Tote: £7.90; £2.30, £2.20, £4.80. DF: £19.80. Trio: £32.30. CSF: £33.48. Tricast: £303.42.

1.30 (2m hdle) 1, SHEECKY (M W Martin, 16-1); 2, Ratter-J (T Dascombe, 3-1); 3†, Kindakoola (G Tormey, 16-1); 3†, Viaggio (R Johnson, 3-1). ALSO RAN: Evens fav Little Blackfoot (5th). 5 ran. 14l, 9l, dd ht, 15l. B McMahon at Tamworth. Tote: £13.00; £2.10, £2.40. DF: £63.50. CSF: £58.29.

2.00 (3m ch) 1, ROMANY CREEK (A P McCoy, 7-2); 2, Gilpa Valu (W Marston, 11-8 fav); 3, Mweenish (R Bellamy, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Over The Stream (4th), Spartan Silver (pu). 5 ran. NR: Nickup, Supposin. 6l, 7l, dist. G Balding at Fyfield. Tote: £4.60; £2.20, £1.50. DF: £2.60. CSF: £8.77.

2.30 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, CHALLENGER DU LUC (D Bridgwater, 4-6 fav); 2, Fixturessecretary (W Marston, 7-2); 3, Jackson Flint (M A Fitzgerald, 7-1). ALSO RAN: 10 Same Difference (5th), 20 Aedean (4th), Lobster Cottage (pu), 66 Seatwist (6th). 7 ran. 3l, nk, 8l, dist, dist. M Pipe at Wellington. Tote: £1.60; £1.20, £2.60. DF: £2.40. CSF: £3.51.

3.00 (2m hdle) 1, SUPREME LADY (J F Titley, 4-1); 2, Silver Shred (D Bridgwater, 11-4 fav); 3, Strathmore Lodge (R Davis, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Douce Maison, 5 Coole Hill (5th), 7 Celtic Ceilidh, 20 [illegible] (6th), 25 [illegible], 50 Boolavogue, 66 Buzzards Hall, 100 Kudos Princess, Yengema. 15 ran. 4l, 1l, 10l, 1¼l, 5l. Miss H Knight at Wantage. Tote: £5.10; £1.80, £2.90, £3.50. DF: £13.60. Trio: £49.40. CSF: £15.98.

3.30 (2m hdle) 1, FAIR AND FANCY (R Guest, 5-1); 2, Banana Cove (J Lodder, 7-1); 3, Once More For Luck (P Niven, 11-10 fav). ALSO RAN: 7 Shared Gold (4th), 8 Hashar, 14 Fly By North (5th), 20 Master Murphy (6th), 25 Mecado, My Lindianne. 9 ran. 1¼l, 3½l, 4l, 2½l, 4l. Miss M Milligan at Middleham. Tote: £4.40; £1.40, £1.80, £1.10. DF: £25.90. Trio: £12.10. CSF: £37.20. Tricast: £58.06.

Placepot: £73.20. Quadpot: £4.40.

Sedgefield

Going: good, good to firm in places

12.50 (2m 5f 110yd hdle) 1, MAGSLAD (A Roche, 8-15 fav); 2, Whatdidyousay (G Lee, 12-1); 3, Ron On The Run (M Dwyer, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 10 Highland Way (4th), Rascally (ur), 12 Miss Lamplight (6th), 16 Calipo Bello, 20 Mint Cruise, 25 Cash Box (pu), One More Bill, Percy Pit (pu), 33 Kittochside Lad, Meskin Brook, Orwell Ross, Sayrul Dancer (5th). 15 ran. NR: Dalusman, Derry's Delight. 8l, 2l, 1½l, 20l, 7l. J J O'Neill at Penrith. Tote: £1.70; £2.70, £2.60, £1.10. DF: £17.40. Trio: £72.80. CSF: £10.79.

1.20 (3m 3f 110yd hdle) 1, SOUTH WESTERLY (G Lee, 8-13 fav); 2, Uron V (G Cahill, 7-1); 3, Classic Statement (S Taylor, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 10 Troodos [illegible] Morning In May (5th), Tough Test (4th). 6 ran. ½l, 20l, dist, 1l. Mrs M Reveley at Saltburn. Tote: £1.40; £1.10, £2.40. DF: £2.90. CSF: £5.40.

1.50 (3m 3f ch) 1, RUSSIAN CASTLE (K Jones, 5-1); 2, Aly Daley (P Carberry, 4-5 fav); 3, Mister Hochberg (D Parker, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 100-30 Woodvilla (pu), 25 Aylesbury Lad (5th), Just Molly (6th), 33 More Joy (4th), 100 Dromin Fox (pu). 8 ran. 15l, 30l, 3l, 1¼l, 9l. J Wade at Ferryhill. Tote: £4.70; £1.10, £1.20, £3.00. DF: £3.10. CSF: £8.78.

2.20 (2m 1f ch) 1, SONSIE MO (B Storey, 20-1); 2, Flash Of Realm (G Cahill, 5-1); 3, Wait You There (Mr S Swiers, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 5-4 fav Precipice Run (ur), 3 Heathview (4th), 8 North Pride (5th), 20 Jock's Burn (6th). 7 ran. 10l, 1¼l, 6l, 3l, dist. Mrs S Bradburne at Cupar. Tote: £18.70; £4.10, £3.40. DF: £23.90. CSF: £104.52.

2.50 (2m 5f ch) 1, JUKE BOX BILLY (B Harding, 4-1); 2, Doxford Hut (G Cahill, 33-1); 3, Joe White (P Carberry, 5-2 fav). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Willie Sparkle (ur), 5 The Toaster (4th), 7 Notable Exception (5th), 16 Blazing Dawn, 25 Rebel King, 33 Bad Trade, Dese Marshall (6th), Potato Man. 11 ran. 8l, ¾l, ¾l, 3l, 20l. P Monteith at Rosewell. Tote: £4.40; £1.60, £2.60, £2.50. DF: £61.00. Trio: £161.70. CSF: £102.72. Tricast: £349.36.

3.20 (2m 1f 110yd hdle) 1, BUCKLEY BOYS (T Kent, 11-2); 2, Nonios [illegible] Callaghan, 9-2); 3, Eriny (M Dwyer, 6-1). ALSO RAN: 7-4 fav Desert Fighter (5th), 4 Wild Rose Of York (4th), 16 Guler-A (6th), Whitegatesprincess. 7 ran. NR: General Chaos. 3½l, 1¾l, 2½l, 20l, 1l. A Bailey at Tarporley. Tote: £7.90; £2.10, £3.00. DF: £15.70. CSF: £28.25. Tricast: £138.74.

Placepot: £81.00. Quadpot: £8.80.

Lingfield Park

Going: standard

12.40 (5f) 1, Half Tone (D Biggs, 5-1); 2, Robo Magic (12-1); 3, Kalar (3-1). Colston-C 11-4 fav. 8 ran. NR: Tommy Tempest. Nk, 1¾l. R Flower. Tote: £4.60; £3.90, £2.40, £1.00. DF: £47.90. Trio: £28.50. CSF: £54.53. Tricast: £192.09.

1.10 (5f) 1, Cheeky Chappy (P Fessey, 11-4); 2, Sharp Imp (6-2 fav); 3, Lochon (6-1). 8 ran. ½l, 3l. D Chapman. Tote: £3.10; £1.70, £1.80, £1.10. DF: £3.30. CSF: £9.44. Tricast: £32.36.

1.40 (1m 5f) 1, Ballynakelly (T Ashley, 4-7 fav, Richard Evans's nap); 2, Outstayed Welcome (14-1); 3, Pat's Splendour (33-1). 10 ran. NR: Broughtons Formula. 7l, 12l. R Akehurst. Tote: £1.70; £1.10, £6.80, £3.00. DF: £8.90. Trio: £42.90. CSF: £10.58. Tricast: £149.98.

2.10 (1m 2f) 1, Landlord (W Newnes, 7-1); 2, Awesome Power (6-1); 3, Studio Thirty (7-2). Spitfire Bridge 13-8 fav. [illegible] Tote: £7.70; £2.10, £2.20, £2.00. DF: £10.50. CSF: £44.91.

2.40 (7f) 1, Faith Alone (G Duffield, 6-1); 2, Rowlandsons Charm (33-1); 3, Ballymoney (7-2). Mawingo 11-4 fav. 14 ran. NR: Fortuitous. Nk, 2l. C Wall. Tote: £9.60; £3.40, £8.90, £2.10. DF: £189.10. Trio: £275.50 (part won; pool of £271.66 carried forward to 1.20 at Taunton today). CSF: £179.42.

3.10 (6f) 1, Time Clash (S D Williams, 25-1); 2, Gracious Gretclo (10-1); 3, Dancing Jack (10-1). Banzhaf 5-4 fav. 7 ran. 3l, 3l. B Palling. Tote: £20.70; £3.10, £4.10. DF: £188.80. CSF: £201.63.

3.40 (1m) 1, Prizefighter (R Lappin, 11-2); 2, Whatever's Right (9-4 fav); 3, Tatika (11-1). 11 ran. NR: Labudd. 1¾l, ¾l. J Eyre. Tote: £6.40; £2.40, £1.20, £5.10. DF: £13.80. Trio: £119.90. CSF: £19.19. Tricast: £127.18.

Jackpot: £55,884.20 (0.20 winning tickets; pool of £62,968.17 carried forward to Taunton today).

Placepot: £711.50. Quadpot: £10.30.

□ Tony McCoy was unseated by the favourite, Jymjam Johnny, after the first 100 yards of the Birch Handicap Hurdle at Leicester yesterday. But he made amends by steering Romany Creek to victory two races later.

Harding eyes championship

BRIAN HARDING recorded his fourteenth winner of the season on Juke Box Billy, trained by Peter Monteith, in the Hope Inn Handicap Chase at Sedgefield yesterday. He is now only one behind Glenn Tormey in the race for the conditional jockeys' championship.

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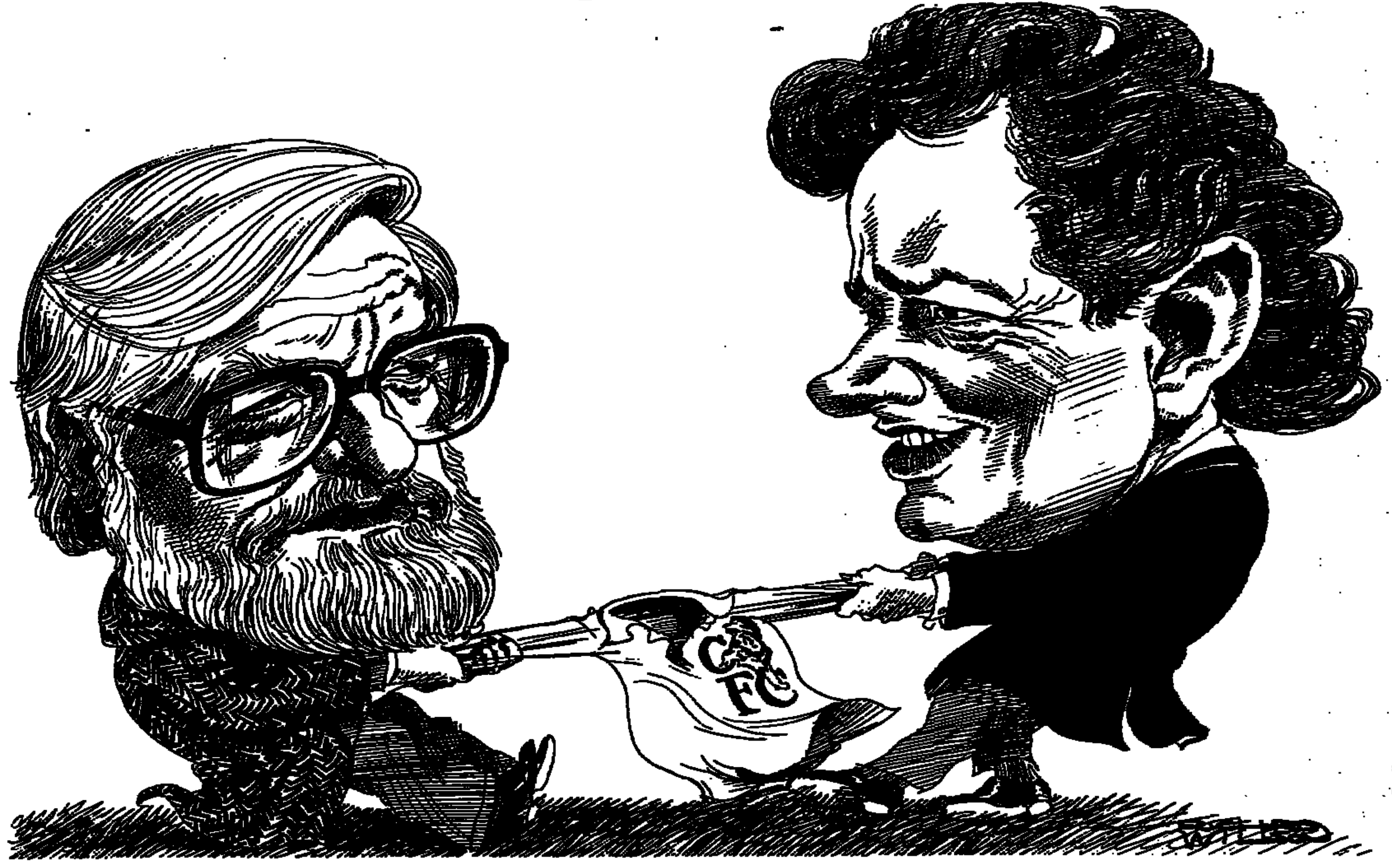
Question time for chairman as Stamford Bridge rivals come face to face

Bates and Harding make their pitch

Alyson Rudd on the need for compromise between the feuding parties at today's boardroom meeting


The struggle for control of Chelsea between Bates, left, and Harding comes to a head in a boardroom meeting at Stamford Bridge today

There are bears with sore heads and then there is Ken Bates recovering from pneumonia. Today, after weeks of well-publicised sniping from a distance, Bates entertains his would-be successor to the chair of Chelsea Football Club.

Matthew Harding, 41, will be attending a boardroom meeting at Stamford Bridge and facing an irate Bates for the first time since their relationship soured to the point that Bates banned Harding from the Chelsea directors' box and players' lounge.

Bates's recent illness has kept him away from the ground where Harding has been flouting the ban by sidling past security guards to meet Glenn Hoddle, the team manager.

A big sloppy bear-hug from Bates is out of the question even if Harding does play down the antagonism. "I've not had a chance to talk much to Ken lately so I'm looking forward to seeing him on Thursday," he said.

If Chelsea are to pummel their way out of the cloud of mediocrity that has enveloped the club for the past 20 years then Bates, 63, will have to force himself to look forward to seeing Harding, who, as chairman of the Benfield Reinsurance Group, is worth more than £120 million and appears to like nothing more than lavishing gifts on the club he has supported since he was eight.

Since October 1993, when at Bates's invitation he joined the Chelsea board, Harding has spent £16.5 million on the ground freehold, put £5 million towards the new North Stand and added £3.5 million to the pot for new players.

Now, however, Bates has said Harding is stingy and criticised him for failing to spell out how much more cash he will inject into the club.

Two incidents are at the root of the impasse. By purchasing the ground freehold outright in April, Harding effectively grabbed the "saviour" tag from under Bates's nose. Bates had saved Stamford Bridge from property developers but only on a short-term basis. Harding made sure of it.

Then, on November 2, Harding wrote to Bates stating that he wanted to resign from the board of Chelsea Village, the club's holding company. Harding insisted his reasons have to remain a private matter between him and Bates but his decision inevitably led to speculation as to how Chelsea Village is run.

Chelsea Village placed Chelsea Football and Athletic Club (CFAC) into receivership in 1993. Bates owns 29 per cent of the Village but controls the remaining shares through an anonymous consortium. Bates jealously guards the identity of the members of his consortium. The holdings are based in off-shore companies in the British Virgin Islands, Hong Kong and Guernsey. Mystery breeds suspicion. There has been a newspaper report stating that a former arms dealer owns a sizeable chunk of the shares. People wonder why Bates is so secretive.

Chelsea Village is Bates's vehicle for turning Stamford Bridge into a leisure complex. On the agenda of the board meeting today are questions about whether that complex is being given a higher priority than the football team, at present eleventh in the FA Carling Premiership.

Specifically, Bates is being asked if Chelsea Village wants to place a ceiling on transfer fees, to sell players to finance the hotel, luxury apartments and leisure facilities and generally to control the football club's spending and wage structure.

The agenda of such meetings is not normally released and Harding stressed he was not the source of the leak. Indeed, Harding has conducted himself in exemplary fashion throughout the squabble. He has scored innumerable publicity points by laughing off his ban from the directors' box and by drinking with supporters before matches.

> 'Harding scored innumerable publicity points by laughing off his ban'

Having discovered an ardent Chelsea supporter was among Britain's leading 100 earners, Bates wooed Harding and the general understanding was that Harding was Chelsea's chairman-in-waiting.

Harding, it seems, is not keen to hang around too long, and with his intoxicating mixture of wealth and man-of-the-people attitude, has won over the Chelsea Independent Supporters' Association and most of the tabloid press.

He does not say he should replace Bates but speaks euphemistically. "I am not doing this for me. It is imperative Chelsea Football Club grasp what opportunities it gets with both hands," he said.

That opportunity is his money, but Harding's resignation from the Chelsea Village board underlined that the man who made his fortune from taking on other people's risks will not continue to underwrite the club unless Bates is more open about his plan and the nature of his consortium, or is willing to sell up. So far Bates has scoffed at such notions.

Bates cannot be ousted by popular demand, and estimates of what it would cost Harding to buy Bates out, if that is the route the present chairman chooses, have been put at £50 million. A clash of egos on the pitch ruins the game, a clash of egos among directors can ruin a club. The boardroom meeting today needs to serve up some compromises.

Forest savour prospect of taking on elite

By Rob Hughes, Football Correspondent

BY TWICE crushing the grape, Nottingham Forest can now savour the prospect of a vintage quarter-final when the Uefa Cup comes around again in the early spring. On Tuesday night, in freezing Lyons, they squeezed out the French club, just as they had Auxerre in the previous round, by manfully defending a solitary goal from the first leg.

Frank Clark, their manager for just over two seasons, during which they have lost only 19 times in 106 games, said: "We'll take a place in the quarter-finals any way it comes but you always hope you can do it with a bit more style."

They will meet, in all probability, one of the Continent's stylists when the draw is made in Geneva tomorrow. Barcelona, rebuilt now that Romero and Stoichkov are gone, are also through to the last eight. So are PSV Eindhoven, AS Roma and Bayern Munich. By tonight, it is likely that AC Milan, two goals up from the first leg away to Sparta Prague, will also be among the elite that await Forest in the draw.

It is possible, however, that Forest will be asked to continue trying to acquire a taste for success in vinous country. Bordeaux last night eliminated Real Betis 3-2 on aggregate, losing 2-1 in Spain after winning the first leg 2-0. Another probable French team in the last eight is Lens, who tonight try to capitalise on their first-leg goalless draw away to Slavia Prague.

Whatever awaits Forest, no one can doubt their defensive resilience. A French critic suggested that they did not play in Lyons, they merely stood in the trenches. Fair enough, Monsieur, but they stopped Lyons from scoring. That was all that was necessary and, when a nation is stripped as near naked of European esteem as the British, there must be some gratitude for the powers of concentration and stubbornness that Forest maintained.

That same stubbornness was, after all, the quality on which Michael Atherton this week built one of the great Test innings, his 185 not out in South Africa. If we land that, then we must be careful not to denigrate it on the football field.

"We fight for each other," Steve Chettle, one of those Forest defenders, said on the homebound plane. "It's been bred into us since we came to the club — we follow the bulldog spirit of the skipper [Stuart Pearce]."

Alas, Chettle's centre-back partner, Colin Cooper, was indisciplined enough to receive a second yellow card in consecutive games and, woe betide Forest if, without him, they should run into Jürgen Klinsmann in the quarter-finals. He scored four goals out of four in Bayern Munich's first-leg defeat of Benfica and, on Tuesday, in the Stadium of Light, Bayern came from behind to achieve a 3-1 victory.

Klinsmann scored twice, one of his goals a magnificent piece of running and a judicious chip over the diving goalkeeper. That brought his tally in two games to the sum total of Forest's entertainment, for and against, in three rounds of the competition.

Clark's men have played six times, have scored a mere four goals, but conceded only two, and that is the parsimonious record that does more than crush grapes. It squeezes the lifeblood out of opponents, it mirrors the performance England achieved in their 0-0 draw against Norway in Oslo, and the main regret is that it reflects England's football as being barren.

It contrasts, of course, with the sloppy defending that characterises the FA Carling Premiership — the feeling that it is at the back that our football lacks thought and quality.

At least Clark has a potential remedy on the Nottingham Forest treatment table. As he points out, they have gone it alone in Europe without the injured strikers, Bryan Roy and Kevin Campbell, who should be fit and refreshed by March. If, of course, they do meet Herr Klinsmann or George Weah, of Milan, they may need a goal or two to stay buoyant and proudly British in Europe.

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KITSCH CAPITAL OF THE WORLD
Today's prize is a seven-night holiday for two in Las Vegas, the gambling capital of the world. There are no clocks in the casinos and the windows are blacked out to encourage gamblers to lose track of time as well as how much money they are losing.

But the city that never sleeps has more to offer than roulette and slot machines. It is also the kitsch capital of the world. Outside one hotel is a volcano which erupts every fifteen minutes at £5,000 a time. At another, built like a 30-storey pyramid, there is a 110-foot "Sphinx" and a replica of King Tut's tomb. And at the Mirage, you can watch a Treasure Island battle between a British frigate and a pirate galleon.

You can also take a sightseeing flight over the 217-mile long Grand Canyon, go to the Wet n' Wild waterpark on the main Strip, visit a museum dedicated to Liberace or take in the Guinness World of Records Museum.

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Q. How long is the Grand Canyon?

Calls are charged at 39p per minute cheap rate and 49p at all other times.

TOMORROW: WIN A TRIP TO NEW YORK

Birmingham charged with misconduct

By Our Sports Staff

BIRMINGHAM City have been charged with misconduct by the Football Association following the crowd violence at their Endsleigh League first division match against Millwall on November 4.

The club could face a fine, a suspended sentence or even closure of their St Andrew's ground if they are found guilty under FA rule 24. The charge relates to encroachment by spectators onto the pitch and an alleged assault on Dave Savage, the Millwall substitute, by a supporter; the throwing of missiles by Birmingham supporters at Millwall supporters and other incidents involving alleged attacks by Birmingham supporters on Millwall followers and police officers.

Birmingham have 14 days to reply to the FA with their observations and request for a personal hearing. They are still awaiting the outcome of an investigation into their Anglo-Italian Cup tie with Ancona in which three of their staff were accused of assaulting an Italian official.

Brighton have been told they can stay at the Goldstone Ground for an extra year following talks between Hove Council and the firm buying the stadium.

The club, who are selling the ground to help pay off debts of £6 million, were due to move out at the end of this season. The stay of execution follows negotiations between Hove Council and Chartwell Development Properties Limited, who plan to build a store on the site.

Hove Council leader Ivor Caplin announced the reprieve yesterday but was critical of the decision to sell the ground. He said: "When the present owners get a return of their funds from the sale of the ground they could give the club back, via the local council, to local people to run — people who will care about our community and not sell it for any reason."

Roy Keane, the Manchester United midfield player, is losing his fight to be fit for the Republic of Ireland's European Championship qualifying play-off at Anfield next Wednesday.

Keane had increased his training schedule following a hernia operation last month but is still well short of match fitness and has withdrawn from a planned comeback in a reserve team fixture against Leeds.

Hendry holds nerve to thwart Drago

From Phil Yates in Frankfurt

STEPHEN HENDRY was forced to recover from a 3-1 deficit to beat Tony Drago, of Malta, 5-3 in the last 16 of the German Open here yesterday, taking his unbeaten run of matches in world-ranking events to 14. Drago, unsuccessful in nine previous meetings with the world champion, enjoyed an outrageous fluke in the fourth frame when he potted the last red off three cushions escaping a snooker and cleared up to the blue.

Yet, with Drago's history of folding under pressure, against top-class opposition, it was no surprise that Hendry, who had compiled his 24th century break of the season, 126 in the second frame, mounted a fightback.

First to the table in the next two frames, Drago missed a black and a brown in promising scoring territory. Hendry levelled at 3-3, with runs of 72 and 44, he moved 4-3 ahead with a 79 break and duly added the eighth. Hendry was leading 56-5 when Drago missed a simple pink. Even though there were four reds, and therefore 59 points still available, Drago's disgust was such that he offered his hand in concession.

"Tony is the sort of person who tends to miss a couple of shots when he gets near the winning line," Hendry said. "He is a nervous player so even at 3-1 down, I knew I was still very much in the match."

Hendry's quarter-final opponent will be Rod Lawler, of Liverpool, who reached that stage of a ranking event for the first time since the 1991 Mercantile Classic with an unexpected 5-2 victory over James Wattana, the fifth seed.

John Higgins, the provisional world No 2 only avoided a deciding ninth frame against Mark King, the first-round conqueror of Ronnie O'Sullivan, by clearing the colours to black in the eigth to complete a 5-3 win.

Drago: took early lead

☐ The Belgian Masters, a 12-man invitation tournament scheduled to take place in Antwerp from December 1-16, has been postponed indefinitely after players, the promoter and the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association failed to reach agreement on a format.

Sports funding boost for deprived areas

By John Goodbody

NEW school sports facilities, which are also available for use by the local community, will be eligible to have up to 80 per cent of their capital costs paid from National Lottery funds, the Sports Council announced yesterday. As the council allocated a further £7 million from the lottery, bringing the total to £122 million, it said that two changes would help the young and socially deprived to benefit more.

From next year schools will be able to apply for higher levels of financial support, and in 70 disadvantaged areas of the country, many inner-cities, funding could reach more than 90 per cent of the total cost. At present, there is an upper-limit of 65 per cent.

Derek Casey, the chief executive of the council, said that, in parts of England, finding the remaining 35 per cent of costs had been "pretty steep" for some clubs and sports centres, and consequently they had been discouraged from applying.

Among 83 projects funded from the lottery this month was one that would have been a typical candidate for higher-rate support. The Warwick Park Youth Centre in Peckham, south London, received £350,000 from the lottery, which it matched with £202,000 from Southwark Council to extend and improve its facilities.

Southwark is designated as the second most deprived borough in England and Wales. Horace Dawkins, the manager of the centre, said that many inner-city projects were hampered because they did not have the technical expertise and financial support to apply successfuly to the lottery.

"Fortunately, we had Southwark Council 100 per cent behind us. However, other centres do have difficulty in finding the remaining funding.

"Hopefully, a lot of them will now be able to benefit from the funding levels introduced by the Sports Council," he added.

Focus, pages 34, 35

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هكذا من الاصل

Ramprakash dropped from No 3 spot for last match before third Test

England give Crawley another chance

FROM ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT
IN PAARL

TO STRIP a player of his status, to publicly declare him a failure, is the most uncomfortable aspect of sport but, in the case of Mark Ramprakash, England's cricket management had no choice. Yesterday, the formalities were completed, the vital role at No 3, for which Ramprakash seems to possess the technical but not the mental credentials, passing to John Crawley.

Such things are best done sensitively but without sentiment and England achieved this delicate mix. There was no dissection of Ramprakash's shortcomings, but neither was there a misguided attempt to soften the blow. Ramprakash will not play in the four-day match against Boland, starting today, when runs would merely have blurred the issue, and it will require at least one injury for him to play any further part in the Test series.

The stricken Middlesex player has thus achieved an unwanted double by being part of England's two great days of the cricketing year, knowing on each occasion that he was about to be dropped. In June, at Lord's, his "pair" preceded England's stunning 72-run win over West Indies; now, by making an excruciating four and an abrupt nought, prior to the remarkable escape in Johannesburg, he is reliving old traumas.

This is a close-knit party and there is no shortage of sympathy, though even the effervescent assistant manager, John Barclay, admits it can seem futile. "Sometimes it is best to say nothing," Barclay said, "but I have now talked to Mark just to reassure him of our compassion. We all know what he is going through."

Crawley certainly does. Although his perceived shortcomings have been different — technical rather than temperamental — his Test career has begun almost as stutteringly as that of Ramprakash. Twice he has lost his place but, now that his chance has come again — in a position that has changed hands nine times inside two years — he feels better equipped, even if the circumstances are not of his choosing.

"It is the name of the game, especially on tour, that you are often waiting around for someone else's misfortune to provide your opportunity," Crawley said. "You would not be human, you'd be quite evil in some ways, if you didn't have mixed feelings, and of course I'm sorry for Ramps. I've been there myself."

Crawley disappointed himself on the tour of Australia last winter when he failed to make a first-class century. "I feel I am playing a heck of a lot better than I was then," Crawley said. "I have worked hard on some little technical things, making sure the bat comes down straighter and playing with softer hands."

Assistance has come from David Lloyd, the Lancashire coach, and John Edrich, with England, but Crawley gives the greatest credit to his father, Frank, a long-time club cricketer in Manchester. "He is the only one who has seen my full progression, seen how I have got better in some areas while regressing in others. He's been a great help and he is here in South Africa until the end of the next Test."

While the captain, Michael Atherton, takes a well-merited rest, Alec Stewart will today lead a side that contains only one of the four seam bowlers who played in Johannesburg. Dominic Cork, who bowled 64 overs in the Test, and Devon Malcolm, who is expected to be unsuited by the conditions, were predictable omissions but Angus Fraser, plainly short of work during the first innings at the Wanderers and a bowler who thrives on routine, surely could have done with another match.

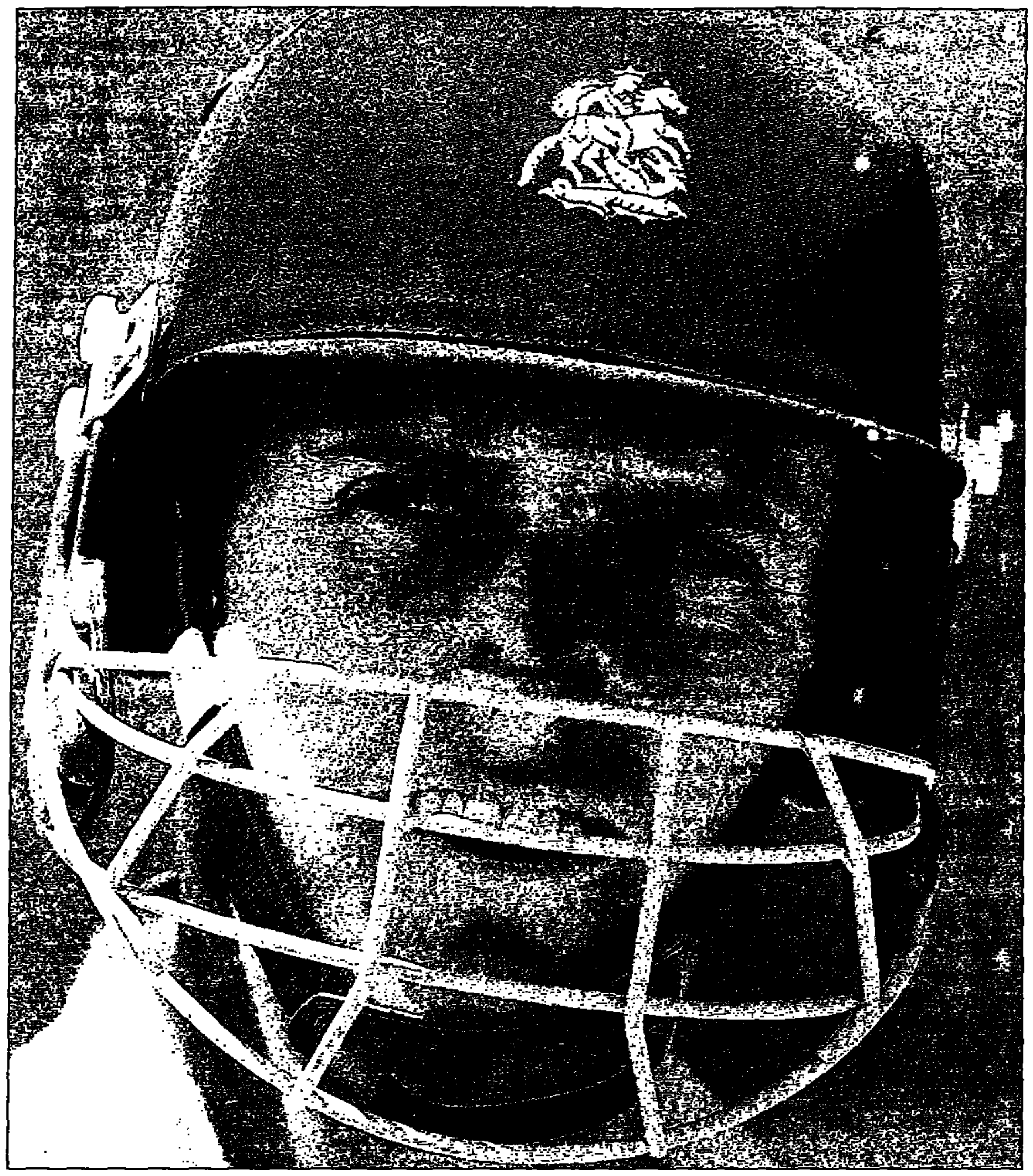
Darren Gough does play and it is an important game for him. He bowled well in the nets yesterday but his manager, Raymond Illingworth, remains concerned. "He has got to concentrate on his line and get his confidence back. He did bowl one unlucky spell in the Test but the bad luck came because the captain had lost confidence in him and didn't have fielders where the edges were flying. If you bowl rubbish, you'll set fields for rubbish."

Interestingly, Gough will be opposed today by a man who doubtless believes he could do his job better. Phillip DeFreitas, unwanted by England, is the Boland overseas player and will lead their attack on the striking new ground beneath the Drakenstein mountains where, only last year, a match against New Zealand had to be abandoned due to the dangerous state of the pitch.

DeFreitas will feel he has something to prove, not least to Illingworth, who was responsible for his rapid fall from favour. Illingworth, however, stresses that DeFreitas remains in contention for the World Cup, England having named only a provisional squad.

Plainly, it is a week for forgiveness; yesterday, Illingworth played golf with Andrew Wingfield-Digby, the man he dismissed as team pastor only last summer.

Letters, page 19



Crawley can make the England No 3 position his by scoring runs against Boland. Photograph: Graham Morris

TEAMS

ENGLAND: A J Stewart (captain), R A Smith, J P Crawley, G P Thorpe, G A Hick, R C Russell, M Watkinson, D Gough, R K Illingworth, M Ilott, P Martin.
BOLAND (from): L D Ferreira, B C Baguley, K C Jackson, T Lazard, A P Kuiper (captain), W F Stelling, L-M Germishuys, P A J DeFreitas, C W Henderson, C M Willoughby, R Telemachus, B J Drew.

Sri Lanka defend their spinner in debate over his action

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

THE Sri Lanka team closed ranks yesterday around Muttiah Muralitharan, the young off spinner whose bowling action has come in for increasing attention.

Dav Whatmore, the Sri Lanka coach, pledged his full support for the bowler as his side prepared at the WACA Ground in Perth for the first Test against Australia, which starts tomorrow.

"To me, his action is legitimate and that's all there is to it," Whatmore said. "As a coach I am naturally always concerned about the extra pressure this sort of thing may put on a player. But the boy is handling it pretty well and his confidence is still high.

"I and the rest of the team are firmly behind him, too. They have full confidence in his ability. That has not been a problem."

Television footage of Muralitharan, 23, in action against New Zealand earlier this year, when he took five for 64, is known to have been studied by the International Cricket Council (ICC). Whatmore said he had not tried to modify Muralitharan's action: "There is no need to. He has never been "called" by an umpire," Whatmore said.

The debate started in Australia when it was reported that the umpires, Tony McQuill and Martin Whitby, referred to his "suspect" action in their report to the Australian Cricket Board after Sri Lanka's opening first-class match of this tour against Queensland last month.

An Australian newspaper reported that the Test referee, Graham Dowling, of New Zealand, is planning to meet Sri Lankan officials before the start of play in Perth to discuss Muralitharan's action.

Duleep Mendis, the Sri Lanka team manager, said: "He has played before the top umpires all over the world and has never been called. There is no problem."

Bob Simpson, the Australia coach, would not be drawn on the issue, saying he would leave it to the Test umpires, Khizar Hayat, of Pakistan, and Peter Parker, of Australia.

Australian players have privately expressed concern over his action since he played against them in Sri Lanka three years ago. But has never encountered official trouble anywhere and has taken 78 wickets in 21 Tests.

Wasim Akram seems certain to be confirmed as captain of Pakistan for their defence of the World Cup next year. Pakistan's one-off Test against New Zealand begins in Christchurch tomorrow.

"We do not want to make further experiments with a new captain before the World Cup. Wasim Akram is most likely to be retained," Arif Ali Abbasi, chief executive of the Pakistan Cricket Board, said.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Scully to meet Midlands in decider

THE return of David Scully, of Wakefield, is one of six changes, three positional, to the North rugby union side which beat Western Samoa 34-8 on Tuesday for the deciding match of the CIS divisional championship against the Midlands, in Nottingham on Saturday.

The North's back division is weakened by the withdrawal of three players — Tim Stimpson, Jim Naylor and Will Greenwood — for the England A match with the Samoans at Gateshead next Tuesday. Austin Healey, the Orrell scrum half, moves from scrum half to wing. Jim Mallinder switches from wing to full-back and there are first calls for two of his Sale teammates, Chris Yates and Jos Baxendell. The only forward change is at hooker where Gary French, of Bath, replaces Tim Herbert.

NORTH: J Mallinder (Sale), A Healey (Orrell), J Baxendell (Sale), P Johnson (Orrell, captain), C Yates (Sale), R Liley (Sale), D Scully (Wakefield), G Baldwin (Wakefield), G French (Bath), M Shelley (West Hartlepool), R Arnold (Newcastle), M Greenwood (Wasps), J Fowler (Sale), N Ashurst (Sale), C Vyvyan (Sale). Replacements: S Cooke (West Hartlepool), C Lee (West Hartlepool), N Ryan (Sale), A Smith (Sale), T Herbert (West Hartlepool), P Stewart (Wakefield)

Marinos win

Football: The Yokohama Marinos yesterday captured the Japanese championship, beating Verdy Kawasaki 1-0. More than 48,000 spectators in the National Stadium in Tokyo saw Masami Ihara head the game's only goal from the left-hand side of the area in the 29th minute. The Marinos beat Verdy 1-0 last Wednesday in the first of the two-game championship series.

Parker back

Table Tennis: Jill Parker, 41, the former European champion, will come out of retirement to lead the England women's team against Germany in Hastings on Tuesday, with a place in the European League super division final at stake. For the men's European League match on the same night, against Germany, Alex Perry, of Devon, and Andrew Eden, of Lancashire, have been drafted into the squad, with Bradley Billington standing down.

Seeds beaten

Rackets: The third and fourth seeds in the Lacoste British amateur championship both lost unexpectedly in straight games to less experienced opposition. The former world champion, John Prenn, seeded No 3, lost a tense opening game to the hard-hitting Guy Barker and then seemed to run out of steam, winning only six more points in the match. Mark Hue Williams defeated the fourth seed, Rupert Owen Browne, using his opponent's pace as he cleverly guided the ball down the walls and hit several spectacular winners, particularly on his forehand.

Surrey's chief executive to resign

BY SIMON WILDE

GLYN WOODMAN, Surrey County Cricket Club's controversial chief executive, announced yesterday that he would be resigning at the end of the year from the post he has held since February 1993. It has been a turbulent tenure of office.

Woodman greatly benefited from an ill-fated restructuring of the club's administration, which took effect in April 1994. His background was a business one but he was left in overall control of club matters, even though he had scant knowledge and no experience of on-field affairs.

It took two disastrous seasons of underachievement by the first XI — which, in any case, had not won a trophy since 1982 — for the mistake to be rectified and for that the members must take much of the credit.

It was due to the actions of a small group of them that a review of club procedure was set up under the chairmanship of Sir Peter Imbert, the former Metropolitan Police commissioner. It was recently completed and although the findings are not public its recommendations would have clipped Woodman's wings. His future role was to be confined to business affairs.

The playing side of the club will now revert to the hands of a cricket committee, though a more streamlined one than before April 1994. Prominent among its members will be Alec Stewart, the captain, and the new cricket coach, Dave Gilbert.

"I think this is the end of it," Mike Soper, who recently replaced Brian Downing as chairman, said yesterday. "There are not many people left [to change]. I am not a revolutionary. I just want to bring the fun back for everyone in the club and make us the acceptable face of cricket."

Woodman's successor is Paul Sheldon, who arranged Surrey's 150th anniversary celebrations. A former director of Hodder and Stoughton, he played for Durham University and Sussex Young Cricketers.

Lara stands his ground

BRIAN LARA has given his most detailed explanation yet as to why he withdrew from the West Indies tour of Australia ten days ago, making it plain that his action stemmed not from exhaustion but from disaffection with the way the team was run (Simon Wilde writes).

Lara said that he had "assessed my situation and I thought that I could not continue playing cricket under the same problems that keep coming up. My issue is a very small one in the entire scenario and hopefully next Friday [when the West Indies board meet to discuss Lara's withdrawal] they could address the real facts and what's facing West Indies cricket."

Lara told reporters in Port of Spain on Tuesday night that he recognised the "favourable and unfavourable" press comments but that "what has come out of this is very positive". The board "will now have to account to the people. So, too, the players."

He appeared to accept he might be suspended for pulling out of the tour and seemed untroubled by the prospect. Of more concern, apparently, was that the atmosphere among the players and management had improved. "If I am allowed back into the team, whenever, I will just assess the situation and see if I can play under the same environment," he said.

Lara briefly left the party during the tour of England last summer, for which he was subsequently fined. It is believed that the fine prompted Lara's decision not to tour.

Coaches warned on harassment

BY JOHN GOODBODY

COACHES who abuse or sexually harass competitors or players may be subjected to disciplinary action by the National Coaching Foundation (NCF), even if the gross misconduct does not bring either action by the employer, or a legal conviction.

Two British coaching organisations jointly published their code of ethics and conduct yesterday, two months after Paul Hickson, the Olympic swimming trainer, was jailed for 17 years for raping and abusing girls whom he taught.

The Hickson case brought to the fore the problems of relationships between coaches and competitors across a variety of sports.

Now the NCF and the National Association of Sports Coaches have acted to help protect both their members and the competitors or players whom they advise.

In a pamphlet, which was being drawn up before the Hickson case was heard, the NCF says that gross misconduct includes breach of confidentiality, violence, misuse of alcohol or drugs, sexual harassment or abuse, indecency or any form of child abuse.

The NCF advises anyone wishing to complain about the behaviour of a coach that they should report the matter both to the employer and to the national governing body. An employer can be a club, local authority or sporting organisation and it is irrelevant whether the coach is being paid.

Complaints which involve the abuse of children should also be referred to the police and social services.

The pamphlet warns: "Coaches are responsible for setting and monitoring the boundaries between a working relationship and friendship with their performers. This is particularly important when the performer is a young person. The coach must realise that certain situations or friendly words or actions could be misinterpreted, not only by the performer, but also by outsiders (or other members of a squad or group of performers) motivated by jealousy, dislike or mistrust, and could lead to allegations of misconduct or impropriety."

Hickson: jailed

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Indiana 108 Philadelphia 91; New York 92 Dallas 87, Houston 103 Utah 100; San Antonio 117 LA Lakers 89; Phoenix 112 Vancouver 108; Seattle 119 Toronto 89; Orlando 114 La Clippers 105.

FOOTBALL

TOKYO: J-League championship, second leg: Yokohama Marinos 1 Verdy Kawasaki 0 (Yokohama win 2-0 on agg).

UEFA CUP: Third round, second leg: Real Betis 2 Bordeaux 1 (Bordeaux win 3-2 on agg)

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: Second division: Cardiff 2 Swansea 0

Tuesday's late results

UEFA CUP: Third round, second leg: Lyons 0 Nottingham Forest 0 (Nottm Forest win 1-0 on agg), Werder Bremen 0 PSV Eindhoven 0 (PSV win 2-1 on agg); Roma 3 Brondby 1 (Roma win 4-3 on agg). Barcelona 3 Sevilla 1 (Barcelona win 4-2 on agg); Benfica 1 Bayern Munich 3 (Bayern win 7-2 on agg)

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE: First division: Millwall 0 Charlton Athletic 2. Second division: Crewe Alexandra 4 Bristol City 2.

SPALDING CUP: Second round: Morecambe 6 Altrincham 4, Bromsgrove 3 Telford 1.

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: First division: Dundee 1 Dumbarton 1.

UNIBOND LEAGUE: League Cup: Third round: Colwyn Bay 2 Accrington Stanley 3; Bamber Bridge 0 Lancaster 1, Gainsborough 3 Frickley 3; Leek 4 Eastwood Town 3; Spennymoor 5 Emley 0.

DR MARTENS CUP: First round, second leg: King's Lynn 2 Rushden and Diamonds 0 (King's Lynn win 2-1 on agg). Second round: Bashley 1 Trowbridge 1; Bridgnorth 0 Moor Green 0; Buckingham Town 1 Cambridge City 0; Cheltenham 4 Gloucester 0; Evesham 2 Baston 2; Ilkeston 2 Hinckley Town 3; Waterlooville 5 Fleet 0. Postponed: Baldock v Margate, Gravesend and Northfleet v Crawley; Tonbridge Angels v Fisher 93.

ICIS LEAGUE: First division: Billericay 0 Wembley 1; Marlow 3 Tooting and Mitcham 1. Second division: Chalfont St Peter 0 Bracknell 0; Hungerford 0 Cheshunt 3. Third division: Harefield 2 Flackwell Heath 4 Postponed: Epsom and Ewell v Wealdstone. Carlton Cup: Second round: Aldershot Town 3 Maidenhead United 1 Carlton Trophy: Second round: Cove 0 Hampton 4; Kingsbury 2 Clapton 5.

LEAGUE OF WALES: League Cup: Group three: First round: Newtown 1 Caersws 1.

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Blackburn 1 Bolton 1; Notts County 2 Liverpool 2, Sheffield Wed 0 Sheffield Utd 0. Second division: Burnley 0 Preston 3. Manchester City 0 Hull 0. Port Vale 3 Coventry 1. Third division: Chesterfield 2 Rochdale 3.

SPRINGHEATH PRINT CAPITAL LEAGUE: Northampton 1 Peterborough 0.

COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Ashford 4 Cobham 1.

FA YOUTH CUP: Second round: Oldham 3 York 2; Derby County 3 Doncaster 5. Brentford 4 Exeter 0; Plymouth Argyle 1 Eastleigh 1.

INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE: Pershore 6 Hinckley Athletic 1, Shifnal 2 Oldbury 1 Postponed: Rushall Olympic v Chasetown.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Hadleigh 1 Sudbury 2; Woodbridge 0 Wroxham 2. Postponed: Tiptree v Haverhill

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Andover 3 Totton 3, Gosport 1 Bournemouth 1, Ryde Sports 1 Swanage and Herston 1: Wimborne 2 Aerostructures 0.

LONDON FA CHALLENGE CUP: First round: Dulwich Hamlet 1 Bromley 2.

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Bootle 2 St Helens 0; Eastwood Hanley 2 Clitheroe 2, Maine Road 2 Darwen 1; Salford 3 Penrith 1

SCHOOLS MATCH: Suffolk under-16 championship final: Bungay HS 5, Castle Manor Upper 2.

GOLF

SONY WORLD RANKINGS: 1, G Norman (Aus) 22.14pts; 2, N Price (Zim) 15.87; 3, B Langer (Ger) 15.30; 4, E Els (SA) 14.83; 5, N Faldo (Eng) 14.56, 6, C Montgomerie (Sco) 13.85; 7, C Pavin (US) 13.54; 8, F Couples (US) 10.98; 9, M Ozaki (Japan), 10.88, 10, S Elkington (Aus) 10.50; 11, T Lehman (US) 9.83, 12, J M Olazábal (Sp) 9.21; 13, S Torrance (Sco) 8.32.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE (NHL): Pittsburgh 6 NY Islanders 3; Florida 4 Washington 3; Boston 6 Dallas 4, Detroit 5 Philadelphia 3; Toronto 4 Ottawa 1. Colorado 12 San Jose 2; St Louis 1 Calgary 1 (OT). Vancouver 6 Edmonton 2.

FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

UEFA CUP: Third round, second leg: Lens (0) v Slavia Prague (0); Sparta Prague (0) v A C Milan (2).

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Everton v Newcastle (7.0); Stoke v Nottingham Forest (7.0). Second division: Huddersfield v Rotherham (7.0).

MIDDLESEX SENIOR CHARITY CUP: Second round: Bedfont v Hillingdon (7.30).

FA YOUTH CUP: Second round: Birmingham v Basildon (7.30).

RUGBY UNION

UNIVERSITIES MATCH: Oxford University Greyhounds v Cambridge University LX Club (Iffley Road, 3.0)

OTHER SPORT

RACKETS: Amateur singles championship, Queen's Club

RACKETS

QUEENS CLUB: Lacoste British amateur championship: Quarter-finals: G Barker bt J Prenn 15-10 15-4 15-2; M Hue Williams bt R Owen Browne 15-10 15-8 15-7.

RUGBY UNION

PORTSMOUTH: Royal Navy Cup Final: Royal Marines (Plymouth) 6 Naval Air Command 13.

HEINEKEN CUP: Pool D: Swansea 22 Castres 10.

FINAL TABLE

	P	W	D	L	T	F	Ag	Pts
Swansea	2	1	0	1	3	35	27	2
Castres	2	1	0	1	2	29	34	2
Munster	2	1	0	1	2	29	32	2

CIS INSURANCE TOUR MATCH: Northern Division 34, Western Samoans 8.

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Pontypool 16 N Zealand Army 25.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Rugby 17, Southport, Brisbane 10; Hymers 23, Sedburgh 21.

SKIING

VAL D'ISÈRE: Leading practice times for Saturday's men's Alpine World Cup downhill race: 1, P Ortlieb (Austria) 1min 10.39sec; 2, A Skaardal (Nor) 1 10.65; 3, R Assinger (Austria) 1:10.86; 4, W Perathoner (It) 1.10.88, 5, S Krauss (Ger) 1:10.93; 6, L Kjus (Nor)

SNOOKER

FRANKFURT: German Open: Second round: J Higgins (Sco) bt M King (Eng) 5-3, S Hendry (Sco) bt A Drago (Malta) 5-3; D Morgan (Wal) bt N Bond (Eng) 5-1; R Lawler (Eng) bt J Wattana (Thai) 5-2.

TENNIS

MUNICH: Grand Slam Cup: First round: T Martin (US) bt S Bruguera (Sp) 7-5, 6-4; P Sampras (US) bt P McEnroe (US) 6-1, 7-6.

ATP RANKINGS: 1, P Sampras (US) 4,842 pts; 2, A Agassi (US) 4,765, 3, T Muster (Austria) 4,474, 4, B Becker (Ger) 3,325, 5, M Chang (US) 3,211. 6, Y Kafelnikov (Russ) 2,560; 7, T Enqvist (Swe) 2,505; 8, J Courier (US) 2,471; 9, W Ferreira (SA) 2,144; 10, G Ivanisevic (Cro) 1,861; 11, R Krajicek (Holl) 1,756.

POOLS DIVIDENDS

LITTLEWOODS: Treble chance: 24pts: £743.05. 23: £34.30 22: £2.60 Four draws: £2.40. 10 homes: £49.25. Five aways: £1,318.00.

ZETTERS: Treble chance: 24pts: £83.15. 23: £3.10. Four draws: £75.40. Eight homes: £2.60. Four aways: £793.20. Easy abc £75.40. Lucky numbers: 18 14 38 33 9 34. Goals galore: £1.70.

VERNONS: Treble chance: 24pts: £249.45. 23: £15.80. 10 homes: £43.00 Five aways: £34.55.

World Cup racing goes on despite snow conditions

THE World Cup Alpine skiing circuit has returned to Europe, only to find a familiar problem in poor snow conditions. Yet that might not stop Val D'Isere from hosting up to five races this weekend.

Women have a super giant slalom today and a giant slalom tomorrow. Men have a downhill on Saturday and a super giant slalom on Sunday. There is a possibility of a super giant slalom or slalom for women as a replacement for races cancelled at Lake Louise, Canada.

Weather conditions have had already forced racing to be called off in France. Winds, lack of snow and warm weather have contributed to the various postponements. Barely into the start of the season, the women are already four races behind schedule.

Four races were originally scheduled for Val d'Isere, which normally marks the opening of the season. At the moment, however, only the main track has an adequate snow — and even that has been assisted by snow cannon. "The cold and the weather previewed for the week of the races means the track will still be able to get into good shape," said Jean-Claude Fritsch, the race director. "The people are working hard on the slopes."

Nonetheless, uncertainty over temperatures still leave a chance of the track worsening, putting the women's two-run giant slalom in jeopardy. Attempts have been made to remove the risk by getting adequate snow on to a parallel course, adjacent to the main Oreiller-Killy downhill course.

The men's downhill course has been shortened and will held in two runs, with a combined time determining the winner on Saturday. The super giant slaloms and mini-downhills should assist the present leaders in the overall standings. Norway's Lasse Kjus leads the men's standings after seven races with 465. He recently gained his first victory on the circuit with a win in the Vail super giant slalom.

Alberto Tomba, overall champion last year, is not present for the races. After a poor start in the United States, he is next scheduled to race in a giant slalom in Alta Badia, Italy, on December 17. Katja Seizinger, of Germany, is ahead of Picabo Street, of the United States, in the women's standings after three races, leading 180 to 124 points.

Seizinger has finished second twice so far, while Street took her sixth consecutive downhill race over two seasons. Seizinger won the super giant slalom title last year and was second to Vreni Schneider in the overall standings.

Martina Ertl, of Germany, who won the first super giant slalom of the season is another contender. She also was leading in the Tignes giant slalom last month before high winds wiped out that race.

In yesterday's first downhill training, Patrick Ortlieb, of Austria, had the best time, 1min 10.39sec. His run showed the effect of approximately 600 metres being cut off the top of the course. The winning time last year was 1:56.07. Ortlieb won the 1992 Olympic gold medal in the downhill, also in Val d'Isere, but on another course about a mile away. Atle Skaardal, of Norway, was next in 1:10.65, and Roland Assinger, of Austria, was third, 1:10.86.

Luc Alphand, of France, who won the first downhill of the season, was seventh in 1:11.01. However, A.J. Kitt, of the United States, a winner at Val d'Isere in 1991, slumped to 32nd in 1:11.56 with the 1994 Olympic downhill champion, Tommy Moe, 53rd in a time of 1:12.20.

Ortlieb: leading run

Footsore thoughts from factory floor

BRYANT'S EYE

How do you fancy swapping your flashy new trainers for a cheap pair of flip-flop sandals? According to a report this week from the charity Christian Aid, the workers who actually make the millions of sports shoes worn all over the world never earn enough to afford them. A sacked Filipina shoe factory worker put it simply: "I made elegant Reebok, Puma and Nike shoes for 11 years. But look at what I wear on my feet — a cheap pair of plastic sandals. I am like those who build but are homeless and those who till the soil but are hungry."

Sports shoes have exploded onto the market over the past 15 years; whether for fitness or simply for fashion, most people now own a pair or two. But the companies that sell them — Adidas, Hi-Tec, Nike, Puma and Reebok — do not actually make them. They sub-contract the production, and if you visit a Thai or Chinese factory you will see the rival brands being produced side by side on parallel conveyor belts.

The wages of Third World workers make up a tiny fraction of the cost of sports shoes. Instead, billions are spent on marketing and endorsement by sports stars to sell an image to customers who will pay dearly for it. You can pay more than £100 these days, though on average a pair of sports shoes sells for around £50. The 40 or so factory workers who made that pair of shoes will share among them just over £1 of that £50.

As early as the 1920s enterprising sports shoe peddlars were beginning to learn the value of putting their shoes on high-profile stars. When Jesse Owens won four gold medals at the Berlin Olympics in 1936, he was wearing spikes produced by the German Dassler family, cobblers in the small town of Herzogenaurach, whose two sons Adi and Rudolph quarrelled and set up rival shoe businesses — Adidas and Puma.

> 'Teams design and test an endless stream of new concepts'

Enormous attention is devoted to so-called innovation. Teams of researchers design and test an endless stream of new concepts and gimmicks, so that today you can even get Nike shoes incorporating "Kevlar, the material they use for bulletproof vests."

But the companies are selling more than a piece of sports equipment. They are offering a dream, a leisure item, a fashion accessory — and far more shoes are bought for posing than for pounding the pavements. The profit margins seem to justify the huge amounts spent on advertising and endorsement deals. In March Andre Agassi signed a contract with Nike reported to be worth £70 million. Adidas recently did a £2 million deal with Paul Gascoigne. Michael Jordan is said to earn $18-20 million a year from Nike.

By contrast, the shoes themselves cost little to produce. Take a popular model like the Nike Air Pegasus; Christian Aid calculated that the ex-factory price of this shoe is less than £10. It is available today for between £49.99 and £54.99. So while Christian Aid has a valid case that the workers are being horribly underpaid, it looks as if, at the other end, the customer is being brutally overcharged.

The companies plead that a vast amount goes into research, but does something as basically simple as a sports shoe need all those fancy and complicated gimmicks?

When Jim Peters sliced minutes off the world marathon record in the 1950s — running times that would still place him high in races today — he did it in canvas plimsoles, the sort that schoolboys used to buy in Woolworths. His feet were certainly no tougher than those of Abebe Bikila. He was the first great black African distance runner. Virtually unknown, he amazed everyone by winning the Olympic marathon in Rome in 1960, running over the cobbled streets barefoot. The shoe companies fell over each other to sign him up. By the time he won his second gold, four years later in Tokyo, he was safely kitted out with shoes.

> 'It would cost very little to raise wages in shoe factories'

There has been a long and, to the shoe companies, disturbing list of athletes who have reckoned that the shoemaker can do little to improve on the performance of the human foot. Bruce Tulloh, Ron Hill and Jim Hogan would often bid for medals without shoes, and I had the unusual experience of helping to negotiate a lucrative shoe contract with Brooks for Zola Budd, into which was written a clause saying that she could race without wearing the company's (or anyone else's) shoes.

Christian Aid calculated it would cost very little to raise wages in most Asian sports shoe factories to a decent level. "It wouldn't even add the price of a new pair of laces to what you pay for sneakers," it said. But let us hope that if the workers did find new wealth they would not blow it too quickly on the latest flash pair of high-priced running shoes.

Two years ago a group of American researchers brought a small team of Tarahumara Indians from Mexico to run the Leadville Trail 100-mile race in Colorado.

Legend has it that the Tarahumaras subsist on rice and beans and possess prodigious endurance. The prize money on offer would have made any of them instantly rich in their village. One of them, Victoriano Churro, was 55. Like his Indian teammates he passed up the invitation to compete in expensive designer running shoes. Instead he raced in home-made flip-flop sandals fashioned from leather thongs and rubber cut from discarded tyres found at a local rubbish dump the night before the event.

The race was won, of course, by the man in the flip-flops.

JOHN BRYANT

Two verdicts in rape trial

British Opera Matinée: The Rape of Lucretia. *Radio 3, 1.00pm.*

Here is a rare opportunity to hear the definitive 1970 recording of Britten's chamber opera, with the composer himself conducting the English Chamber Orchestra and Janet Baker, Benjamin Luxon, Peter Pears, Helen Harper and John Shirley-Quirk heading a peerless cast. Britten must have felt grateful to *The Times* when the first reviews of the opera appeared in July 1946. "Britten's search for new operatic forms," said the paper's music critic "will lift opera out of the dead end in which it has been stuck since the death of Puccini." Just compare that with what Ernest Newman wrote about a work he dismissed as "neither intelligible nor sensible". Worse, he said it was "rotten with insincerity and pretentiousness. I was bored". Judge for yourself this afternoon.

Change at Oglethorpe. *Radio 2, 7.00pm.*

Episode one of Peter Moorfoot's comedy series about an improbable Yorkshire railway station and its nutty staff is a bit too frantic for its own good. But if it can get a grip on itself, there is no reason why it should not gradually grow on us. I liked the name of the station buffet, The Brief Encounter, chosen as a means of reviving the golden age of the silver screen. And I think Peter Davison's newly appointed stationmaster will develop rather nicely, especially as his main qualification for the job is that he wrote a book called *Paradigms of Structuration in Early Abstract Expressionism.* **Peter Davalle**

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. 4.00am Clive Warren **6.30** Chris Evans **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Lisa I'Anson, including at **12.30-12.45pm** *Newsbeat*; and at **1.15** The Net **2.00** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Mark Goodier, incl at **5.30-5.45** Newsbeat; **6.15** The Net **7.00** Evening Session **9.00** Soundbite **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **12.00** Claire Sturgess

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **6.00am** Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Debbie Thrower **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Change at Oglethorpe. See Choice **7.30** David Allan **9.00** Paul Jones **9.45** The Gospel Train **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Steve Madden **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** The Breakfast Programme, incl at **6.55** and **7.55** Racing Preview **8.35** The Magazine, incl at **10.35** Euronews and at **11.00** News; Gut Reaction **12.00** Midday with Mair, incl at **12.34pm** Moneycheck; and at **1.15** Entertainment News **2.05** Ruscoe on Five, incl at **3.15** Prime Minister's Question Time **3.45** Entertainment News **4.00** John Inverdale Nationwide, incl at **5.45** Entertainment News **7.00** News Extra, incl at **7.20** Sport **7.35** On the Line **8.05** Women on Top **9.05** SportsAmerica **10.05** News Talk **11.00** Night Extra, incl at **11.15** The Financial World Tonight **12.05am** Night Moves **2.05** Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am Sandy Warr **7.00** Simon Bates **10.00** Jonathan King **12.00** Tommy Boyd **2.00pm** Anna Raeburn **4.00** Scott Chisholm and Lowri Turner **7.00** Sean Bolger **9.00** Moz Dee **10.00** James Whale **1.00-6.00am** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in **GMT. 5.00am** Newsday **5.30** Europe Today **6.00** Newsday **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** News **7.15** *Middlemarch* **7.30** Network UK **8.00** World News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Composer of the Month **8.45** Good Books **9.00** News in German **9.15** Sport **10.00** Newsdesk **10.30** BBC English **10.45** *Middlemarch* **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Sinatra: A Master at Work **12.00** World News **12.05pm** World Business **12.15** Britain Today **12.30** Assignment **1.00** *Newshour* **2.00** *World News* **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Multitrack: X-Press **3.00** News in German **3.15** The Learning World **3.30** Network UK **4.00** World News **4.15** The World Today **4.30** News in German **5.00** Europe Today **5.30** Business **5.45** Sports Roundup **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** News in German **7.00** News **7.01** Outlook **7.25** Faith **7.30** John Peel **8.00** Newshour **9.00** World News **9.05** Business **9.15** Britain Today **9.30** Meridian **10.00** Newdesk **10.30** The World Today **10.45** Sport **11.00** News **11.10** Take Five **11.15** Network UK **11.45** Health Matters **Midnight** Newsdesk **12.30am** On the Move **12.45** Britain Today **1.00** News **1.10** Press Review **1.15** Heritage **1.45** Global Concerns **2.00** Newsday **2.30** Drama: *The Wizard of Oz* **3.00** News **3.15** Sport **3.30** Focus on Faith **4.00** Newsdesk **4.30** Europe **4.45** Folk Routes

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths **6.00** Nick Bailey **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Concerto **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.00** Newsnight **6.30** Sonata **7.00** Travel Guide **8.00** Concert **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Sally Peterson

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono **9.00** Richard Skinner **12.00** Graham Dene **4.00pm** Nicky Horne **7.30** Paul Coyle **10.00** Mark Forrest **2.00-6.00am** Robin Banks

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air. Bantock (A Hebridean Symphony); Weber (Clarinet Concerto No 1 in F minor); **7.05** *Symphony Series*: Mozart (Symphony in D); **7.36** Ireland (Cello Sonata); Part (The Beatitudes); **8.32** *Symphony Series*: Mozart (Symphony in C, Il re pastore)
9.00 Morning Collection with Paul Gambaccini. Mozart, arr Grieg (Sonata in C: Elisabeth Leonskaja, Sviatoslav Richter, pianos); Barber (Knoxville; Summer of 1915: Kathleen Battle, soprano; Orchestra of St Luke's); Beethoven (Violin Sonata in A minor, Op 23)
10.00 Musical Encounters, with Mary Miller. *Artist of the Week*: Catherine Bott, soprano. Byrd (Consort Songs); **10.06** Dussek (Piano Concerto in G minor); Winter (Concertino in C minor); Schoenberg (Weihnachtsmusik); Schumann (Five Songs, Op 40); Sibelius (Symphony No 5)
12.00 Composer of the Week: Schumann. Presented by Gillean McDougall. Arr Kreisler (Romance in A, Op 94 No 2); orch Mahler (Symphony No 4 in D minor); arr Kreisler (Fantasy in C, Op 131) (r)
1.00pm Fairest Isle: British Opera Matinée. The Rape of Lucretia, by Benjamin Britten. See Choice
3.20 Fairest Isle: Brief Lives. The first of three programmes featuring music by talented but short-lived English composers of the 18th century. Julia Roberts, soprano; Timothy Roberts, fortepiano; Revolutionary Drawing Room perform music by Stephen Storace
4.05 The BBC Orchestras: BBC Scottish SO under Martyn Brabbins. Vaughan Williams (Overture: The Wasps); Ravel (Alborada del gracioso, Miroirs); Walton (Variations on a Theme by Hindemith)
5.00 The Music Machine. Aboriginal rock band Yothu Yindi
5.15 In Tune. Brian Morton celebrates the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra
7.30 BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra: The 60th Birthday Concert, live from the Royal Concert Hall, Glasgow, under Jerzy Maksymiuk and Martyn Brabbins. Berlioz (Overture: Roman Carnival); Rachmaninov (Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini); **8.05** John Purser looks back at 60 years in the life of the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra; **8.25** Iain Hamilton (The Transit of Jupiter); Thea Musgrave (Journey through a Japanese Landscape); Elgar (Enigma Variations)
9.55 Fairest Isle: Alchemists of Light. Freddie Young
10.15 Bach Cello Suites: Suite No 3 in C, introduced and played by Yo-Yo Ma
10.45 Night Waves. Roy Porter traces the roots of the modern United Kingdom
11.30-12.30am The BBC Orchestras: BBC Concert Orchestra under Barry Wordsworth. Rawsthorne (Cortège, Fantasy Overture; Rhapsody); Searle (Poem); Leighton (Dance Suite No 3)

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast (**LW** only) **6.00** News Briefing, incl **6.03** Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **7.25, 8.25** Sport **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 The Moral Maze with Michael Buerk
10.00-10.30 News; King Street Junior (FM only). School comedy created by Jim Eldridge and written in six parts by Paul Copley. Starring Karl Howman and James Grout (r)
10.00 Daily Service (LW only)
10.15 this Sceptr'd Isle (LW only)
10.30 Woman's Hour introduced by Jenni Murray. Serial: *Clean Break* by Val McDermid read by Clare Higgins (4/13)
11.30 From Our Own Correspondent
12.00 News; You and Yours, with Tasneem Siddiqi
12.25pm Wordly Wise. Peter Hobday is joined by Simon Brett, Richard Stilgoe and Lorelei King **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; True Blue, by Jez Simons and Jyoti Patel. An Asian woman dreams of becoming a Conservative MP
3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift, with Daire Brehan
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Paul Allen reviews the Royal Shakespeare Company's production of Lord Byron's play *Cain*
4.45 Short Story: The Breeder, by Patricia Highsmith
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast *5.55 Weather*
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Old Harry's Game. A comedy series set in Hell by Andy Hamilton (3/6)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Nouveau Ruined. Sara Parker meets people who began the 1990s with affluent lifestyles, but who are now having to build new lives much further down the financial ladder
8.00 Analysis: Welcome Developments? Michael Prest asks whether successful developing countries, the persistence of poverty in the industrialised world and the growth of global markets have undermined the concept of poor countries
8.45 Shelf Lives: Prozac. The first in a new series of the curious histories of products which have helped shape our lives
9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Inside Mr Enderby, by Anthony Burgess. Read by the late Sir Robert Stephens (11/12)
11.00 Tales of the Bizarre: Night Call Collect. Ray Bradbury introduces the first of a series of his short stories (1/6)
11.30-12.00 Ad Lib (FM only). Robert Robinson talks to plastic surgeons (r)
11.30 Today in Parliament (LW)
12.00 News, incl **12.27am** Weather
12.30 The Late Book: Sucking Sherbert Lemons, by Michael Carson. Read by David Holt (4/10)
12.48 Shipping Forecast **1.00 As World Service**

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2.** FM 88.0-90.2. **RADIO 3.** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4.** FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. **RADIO 5 LIVE.** MW 693, 909. **WORLD SERVICE.** MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). **CLASSIC FM.** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN RADIO.** FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. **TALK RADIO UK.** MW 1053, 1089.Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Gillian Maxey, Rosemary Smith and Susan Thomson

Precise Sampras proves criticism of court is accurate

FROM STUART JONES IN MUNICH

THE Grand Slam Cup, which annually receives criticism for the excessive amount of money that is poured into the pockets of the tennis millionaires, is this year being consistently attacked on another front. The competitors almost unanimously agree that the conditions inside the Olympiahalle here are too fast.

When Thomas Muster complained, his comments were perceived to be little more than sneering asides, an ungracious reaction to being the first player to be knocked out. When Pete Sampras added his temperate voice yesterday, though, the accusation seemed more reasonable. The difference was that his words were justified by his deeds.

Muster had forecast that there would be "two thousand aces" here this week, a figure that was interpreted as a wild exaggeration considering the firepower which had been on display during his match. He and Byron Black had struck only nine between them. Sampras surpassed their combined total within half an hour.

Muster had protested that it was "impossible to play controlled tennis" on the Supreme court. In threatening to overwhelm Patrick McEnroe and break his own record for the swiftest victory in the brief history of the event, Sampras made the game appear to be ridiculously easy.

He was initially delayed only by a physical frailty, not an uncommon occurrence. Last weekend, when he captured the Davis Cup virtually single-handedly for the United States, he was racked with cramp in his legs. Here he merely blew his nose during the first change-over and discovered that it was bleeding.

He confessed that he is vulnerable to the complaint "in dry atmospheres". With a swab of cotton wool lodged in his left nostril, he set about eliminating his compatriot not with the force of a cannon, as he was to confirm later, but with the precision of a laser.

One of his 24 aces was measured at 141kph, an inordinately slow speed for "Pistol Pete", as he has been acclaimed. "There is no reason to hit it any harder," he said. "The balls and the court are so fast that I was just making sure I got the first serve in."

In his first nine service games, he dropped only half a dozen points and four of those were double faults. Midway through the second set, McEnroe, trudging forlornly from side to side, was beaten by six successive aces. The oldest man in the field at 29, he was rendered helpless.

He managed to threaten Sampras only once. At 6-5 and deuce, he was two points away from seizing the second set. The response, a couple of aces, was predictably prompt. With two more in the tie-break, which Sampras took 7-1, he went through 6-1, 7-6 in an hour and a quarter.

His doubles partner in the Davis Cup survived, too. In a duel as colourless as the snow-flecked surrounds of the isolated Olympic stadium, Todd Martin wore down Sergi Bruguera 7-6, 6-4. Although they exchanged only seven aces, the Spaniard amplified the contestants' displeasure.

"This surface is impossible to play," Bruguera bemoaned. "One break and that's it." As a clay-court specialist, the conditions were as unsuitable for him as they had been for Muster, another of whose laments promises to be seen retrospectively as more apposite during at least one of the quarter-finals tomorrow.

The public may not witness "beautiful tennis" this week, the Austrian warned, when Sampras meets Goran Ivanisevic, who recorded 17 aces in knocking out Petr Korda on Tuesday; the spectacle may be as much of a serving contest as were their Wimbledon final of 1993 and semi-final of 1994.

The lone remnant to have beaten Sampras this year is Martin but that, on a hard court in the semi-finals in Memphis, was as long ago as February.

Hawkins shows the style which helped him to gain his second world title in three years

Hawkins surfs to second world title

BY MEL WEBB

IT CANNOT be often that a holiday pursuit, casually dabbled in, goes on to provide a healthy lifestyle, an even healthier bank balance and the prestige of being the best in the world. But so it is with Jamie Hawkins.

Eight years ago, Hawkins went on holiday to Australia, took a look at windsurfing and decided he would try the sport on for size. It fitted like a Savile Row suit, without so much as a nip or a tuck, and he was hooked.

Windsurfing in the warm waters of Australia is all very well, but the cold seas around England demand dedication and a masochistic willingness to endure the cold and wet.

Hawkins, 22, had what it took and yesterday morning he arrived back in England still on the crest of a wave after taking the Old Spice world windsurfing championship in South Africa.

Hawkins, from Worthing, has been a professional since 1992. This was his second world championship — he won his first in 1993 — but this year his victory was even more pleasing. "I was delighted when I won the first time, but I always had the ambition to come back and try again," he said.

The championship encompasses two events, course racing, on a long course involving the entire 64-man fleet, and slalom, raced on a short circuit in eight-man heats. It was the latter discipline that was to set Hawkins on his way. He was third after the first of nine course races on the first day, but won the slalom on the second day and, with another slalom to come, was never again headed.

Seven of the world's top ten were present, with the main threat to his supremacy coming from Christopher Rappe, of Sweden. As the series went on, the competition between Hawkins and Rappe became more tactical. "There's an element of match racing involved, similar to the America's Cup, and I had to make sure I covered Christopher in every race," Hawkins said. "I knew if I kept in front of him, I would probably win. It's a very good feeling to beat the best in the world."

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 42

CAPELINE
(b) A small skull-cap of iron worn by archers in the Middle Ages, from the Italian *cappellina* a little cap, diminutive of *cappella*. "The skull-caps of steel, called capelines, from the time of Edward IV."

COTTEREL
(c) A pin, key, wedge, or bolt which fits into a hole and fastens something in its place, closely related to *cotter*, which may be a shortened form, or the primitive of which this is a diminutive. Northern dialect. "A cotterel is an iron pin passing through a shutter, and fastened on the inside by a peg fitting into a hole at the end."

COLOPHON
(b) The finishing stroke, crowning touch. The inscription or device, sometimes pictorial or emblematic, formerly placed at the end of a book or manuscript, and containing the title, the scribe's or printer's name, date and place of printing. Hence the phrase "from title-page to colophon". In early times the colophon gave the information now given on the title-page. From the Greek *kolophōn* summit. "A literary vampire — who collects nothing but title-pages and colophons."

CHYME
(a) The semifluid pulpy acid matter into which food is converted in the stomach by the action of the gastric secretion. From the stomach it passes to the small intestine, and by the action on it of the bile, the pancreatic juice, etc., becomes fitted for absorption as chyle. From the Greek *chūmos* juice (of plants, animals, etc., from the stem *chu-*, *cheō* to pour). "The sensation of hunger ceases long before digestion takes place, or the chyme is converted into chyle."

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A warm welcome for a reminder of summer

REVIEW

Matthew Bond

Fortune favours the documentary-maker who serves up a reminder of an endless hot summer on a night when most of the country is in the icy grip of a, so far, short but very cold winter.

Doubly fortunate then is Lucy Blakstad, who once she had the simple idea of making a fly-on-the-diving-board documentary about Brockwell Park Lido in south London could not go wrong. Actually, on second thoughts and given BBC2's annoying habit of making the least of a great idea, she might easily have. But she didn't — **Modern Times: Lido** (BBC2) was a treat and should be made instantly available on prescription to those who suffer from Sad, seasonal affective disorder. It's all that blue, I expect — very healing.

The visual appeal of outdoor swimming pools has been recognised by umpteen artists and film-makers — David Hockney, Peter Greenaway and whoever it is who made that strange thing that is not sure whether it is a commercial for BT or a music video for Dave Stewart, to name but ump-three.

As a result we already knew what Blakstad's film was going to look like — the blue of the pool contrasting with the pale of the concrete surrounds. She even dug the star filters out from time to time, those clever little camera things that make water go all twinkly, twinkly.

Similarly, from the moment the soundtrack began with some unseen old dear saying "ooh, the water's lovely today — all silky", we also knew exactly what her film was going to contain. Sure enough, all human life — old, young; rich, poor; gay, straight... you know the form — was duly encountered.

But despite the predictability — people struggling in and out of their clothes, serious swimmers swimming serious lengths, lifeguards perched on high chairs — Blakstad had enough surprises to make the expected unexpected and her film a gently undemanding delight.

The obligatory quick flash, for example, improbably came courtesy of Sir Robin Butler, who kicks off his working day as the head of the Civil Service with a few leisurely lengths and a wrestling match with a pink towelling tabard. Sadly, while the garment's design was ingenious, its cut proved inadequate for the task of total concealment. Blakstad, I fear, may have quite a wait for that damehood.

With so much exposed flesh around, sex reared its head about every three minutes. But while the lido lizards oggled the girls in topless corner and macho Italians fantasised in sub-titles, the only couple to find true romance was lesbian. Sophie and Lisa eventually got "married" at the poolside in an evening ceremony that was straight out of Greenaway's *Drowning by Numbers* — apart from the fact that nobody drowned and they all kept their cossies on.

There were more macho Italians on display in **A Slice of Life** (BBC2). "America gave us the music and Italy gave us the coffee," we were told, as Ray Gosling and a Roy Orbison lookalike fondly recalled the heyday of the British coffee bar. If only the Italians had stuck at Gaggia machines.

But alas, as this quite excellent history of British cuisine showed, a far more fiendish culinary export was on its way, the Italian waiter — a species whose sole purpose, despite more than 30 years of evolution, remains unchanged: to flirt with your girlfriend while dispensing peppery largesse with a grinder the size of a baseball bat. Why more of them have not been beaten to a tiramisu with said grinders remains one of the great mysteries of the restaurant world.

The programme, no doubt made by a bevy of *bella signorinas*, took a more sympathetic view, allowing a whole host of trattoria pioneers to recall the days when olive oil was only available on prescription and Len Deighton would write thrillers at table four. The music, the vines, the raffia-wrapped bottles — it was all about creating ambience and atmosphere, they explained. "Sometimes the waiter even sang along." Yes, didn't they just.

Thankfully, there were diversions, principally in the form of Katharine Whitehorn, Elizabeth David and Wimpy bars. I particularly enjoyed the Wimpy boss recalling the days when his burgers were served at Buckingham Palace garden parties — "the Queen thought it might be fun" — and Whitehorn archly remembering the struggle to make her book, *Cooking in a Bedsitter*, different. "There were lots of cookery books for beginners — brides we called them in those days." Lovely.

A fortnight on from Rose West being found guilty, you wonder what there is left to say about the horrific goings on at Cromwell Street. On the basis of **Inside 25 Cromwell Street** (BBC1) the answer is both nothing and everything. Nothing, because little of what was related by Mae and Stephen West was new and everything, because it is still an extraordinary experience to see and hear these two pleasant enough looking, pleasant enough sounding people calmly tell the story of their awful lives.

At the beginning, both expressed surprise about their mother being found guilty — Stephen because he didn't believe there was enough evidence and Mae because she believes her mother is innocent. By the end, however, both of them had furnished enough circumstantial evidence to suggest justice had been done. One small detail will stay with me for a long time. It was the gradual realisation that Stephen had shaved the bushy eyebrows he inherited from his father, eyebrows that would have labelled him a West for the rest of his life. It's not just the sins that are visited upon the son.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (14295)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (47165587)

9.10 Kilroy (6794787)

10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (9819723) **10.05 Can't Cook, Won't Cook** (s) (1383754)

10.30 Good Morning with Anne and Nick (s) (19755)

12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (8712465) **12.05pm Pebble Mill** (s) (5968397) **12.50 Regional News** and weather (64807842)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (78281)

1.30 Neighbours (Ceefax) (s) (96340991) **1.50 The Flying Doctors** (Ceefax) (s) (2165787) **2.35 This Is Your Life** (r) (Ceefax) (s) (5886858) **3.05 Timekeepers** (s) (6937620)

3.30 Moomin (1788194) **3.55 Monster Cafe** (s) (3091303) **4.10 The Animals of Farthing Wood** (Ceefax) (s) (1075026) **4.35 Smart** (Ceefax) (s) (1346755) **5.00 Newsround** (Ceefax) (3770262)

5.10 The Biz. Huw is so desperate for a girlfriend that even Emma will do. (Ceefax) (s) (8138991)

5.35 Neighbours. Mark is disconcerted by Lucy's way of repaying his kindness (r) (Ceefax) (s) (603281)

6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) (378)

6.30 Regional News magazines (858)

7.00 Top of the Pops. (Ceefax) (s) (7649)

Arthur Fowler is front page news (7.30pm)

7.30 EastEnders. Mark tries to defend the family name but it's a day of reckoning for Arthur. With Bill Treacher (Ceefax) (s) (842)

8.00 Animal Hospital. Rolf Harris explores the work of an RSPCA hospital. (Ceefax) (s) (6397)

8.30 The Brittas Empire: The Chop. Leisure centre-set comedy starring Chris Barrie (r) (Ceefax) (s) (5804)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (9842)

9.30 Roughnecks. Action at sea and ashore in the drama series about oil platform workers. (Ceefax) (s) (125113)

10.20 Redcaps: Indecent Assault. (Ceefax) (s) (575281) **WALES: 10.20** The Slate (437620) **11.00** Redcaps (4587) **11.30** Question Time (68200) **12.30am-2.00** Film: Jenny Kissed Me (46156)

10.50 Question Time. In Belfast, David Dimbleby is joined by three MPs: the Shadow Secretary of Northern Ireland, Mo Mowlam, Ulster Unionist leader David Trimble and SDLP leader John Hume. (Ceefax) (516216)

11.50 FILM: Jenny Kissed Me (1984) starring Ivar Kants, Deborra-Lee Furness, Tamsin West and Paula Duncan. Australian drama. A man's life is thrown into turmoil when his common-law wife and her daughter move to a new life in the city. He is heartbroken that he is now redundant as a father: he loves the child as if she were his own. Then he is diagnosed as having cancer. Feeling he has nothing to lose, he becomes determined to find the happiness to which he feels he is entitled. Directed by Brian Trenchard-Smith (Ceefax) (474194)

1.20am Weather (2071885)

BBC2

6.00am Technology Season

7.00 Breakfast News. (Signing) (9226200)

7.15 Lassie (2008216) **7.40 Swat Kats** (r) (7920858) **8.05 Blue Peter** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (2218533) **8.35 The Record** (s) (7658939) **9.00 Nancy Wake, Code Name: White Mouse** (r) (3428620) **9.50 Prue Leith** (r) (3209552) **10.00 Playdays** (s) (2733295)

10.25 FILM: Squibs (1935, b/w). Musical with Betty Balfour and Gordon Harker. Directed by Henry Edwards (8955674)

11.40 The Fugitive (b/w) (r). (Ceefax) (4613755) **12.30pm Working Lunch** (s) (46281)

1.00 The Family Ness (r) (26254007) **1.05 Bump** (r) (26253378) **1.10 Spot** (r) (26243991)

1.15 Movie Magic (r) (44633823) **1.40 Glynn Christian's Microwave** (s) (15620755) **1.55 Helping Hand** (15610378) **2.10 A Century of Warfare** (9877804)

3.00 News (Ceefax) and weather; **Westminster With Nick Ross.** (Ceefax) (s) (2985281) **3.55 News** (Ceefax) and weather (9717823)

4.00 Today's the Day (s) (571) **4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook** (s) (755) **5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show** (5411552) **5.40 Unspeakable Verse** (966397) **5.55 Turning Point** (889755)

6.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine. Science-fiction adventure series. (Ceefax) (s) (507465)

6.45 The O Zone. Pop magazine (s) (193620)

7.00 Waiting For God (r). (Ceefax) (s) (8991)

7.30 First Sight: A Little Local Difficulty. Lambeth Council, trying to redeem a London borough with a bad reputation. (484). **WALES: 7.30** Homeland; **EAST: 7.30** Matter of Fact; **MIDLANDS: 7.30** Midlands Report; **SOUTH: 7.30** Southern Eye; **SOUTH-WEST: 7.30** Close Up; **WEST: 7.30** Close Up West

8.00 Public Eye. Rogue operators in the coach industry. (Ceefax) (s) (4939)

8.30 Top Gear. The new Escort-sized Rover 200 series. (Ceefax) (s) (9674)

9.00 The Ghostbusters Of East Finchley. Comedy drama serial. (Ceefax) (s) (7484)

9.30 The Young Ones (r). (Ceefax) (39945)

Unorthodox doctor Patrick Hickey (10.00pm)

10.00 Doctors In the Dock: A Fatal Prescription. (Ceefax) (s) (39084)

10.30 Newsnight. (Ceefax) (772465)

11.15 Late Review (s) (730129) **11.55 Weather** (343945) **12.00 Midnight Hour.** Political chat (s) (42021)

12.30am-6.00 The Learning Zone

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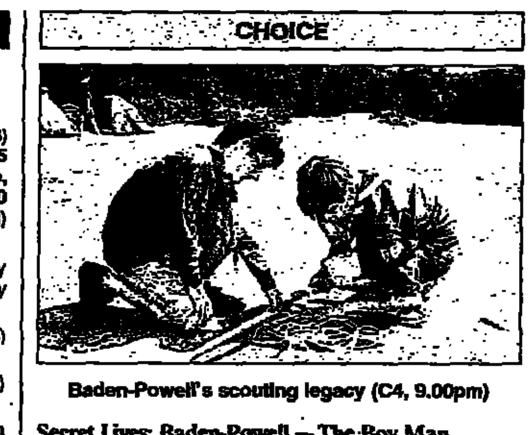

Baden-Powell's scouting legacy (C4, 9.00pm)

Secret Lives: Baden-Powell — The Boy Man
Channel 4, 9.00pm

After the attempt to brand Edward VIII as a traitor to his country, this is a relatively mild reassessment of the founder of the scout movement. The young Baden-Powell may have got a kick out of watching executions, but this sadism vanished in the savagery of the First World War. As a young man, too, he had close male friendships and enjoyed looking at photographs of naked boys, though any homosexual impulses were sturdily repressed. Like the Duke of Windsor he admired the Nazi regime. But when all this is said he emerges as a not dishonourable figure, whose legacy is 25 million Scouts throughout 167 countries. The film even claims that scouting is the largest movement in world history outside organised religions.

Peak Performance: What Makes Milo Fly?
ITV, 7.30pm

Lavinia Milosovici is the Romanian gymnast who thrilled the crowds at the Barcelona Olympics. The judges were also impressed, because they awarded her a gold medal. Four years on she is aspiring to even greater heights. She wants to be acknowledged as the best gymnast in the world. But although she is still only 19, time is not on her side. She is now taller and heavier than the best gymnasts tend to be and her body has changed shape. Watching her backward somersaults on a four-inch beam, slowed down eighty times to bring out the enormity of the skill, you might think she is still in pretty good form. But as the World Championships loom in Tokyo there are plenty of upstart 15-year-olds ready to take her crown.

Redcaps: Indecent Assault
BBC1, 10.20pm

Those who complain that television is drenched in sex may be alarmed to find that it crops up even in this series about the Royal Military Police. But with the integration of women soldiers into men's units three years ago, hanky-panky, and worse, was probably inevitable. Three such cases, or alleged cases since the accused stoutly maintain their innocence, are brought voyeuristically before the cameras. Two women claim that a senior NCO asked them to remove their underclothing. A corporal on his last day in the Army, and with a £40,000 redundancy cheque in his sights, is accused by five women of indecent assault. And we are treated to the serpentine tale of a soldier, his wife, three children by different fathers and a death threat.

Doctors in the Dock: A Fatal Prescription
BBC2, 10.00pm

Patrick Hickey succeeded his father as a GP in Cornwall but soon got disillusioned with conventional medicine. He embraced alternative therapies and opened one of the first holistic medical centres in the National Health Service. With his sandals and, at one time, big black beard, he was an unconventional figure who used unorthodox methods. He was convinced that his approach could help drug addicts, but a young junkie died after injecting himself with medicine Dr Hickey had prescribed. Declaring that the doctor was a danger to the public, the General Medical Council struck him off. Looking back on the episode, Hickey feels he was victimised for being different and he continues the fight for reinstatement. **Peter Waymark**

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV (8770736)

9.25 Supermarket Sweep (s) (8858736)

9.55 London Today (Teletext) (4337674)

10.00 The Time ... The Place (s) (2790303)

10.35 This Morning. Magazine show (2734129)

12.20pm London Today (Teletext) (8718649)

12.30 ITN Lunchtime News and weather (Teletext) (2649587)

12.55 Home and Away (Teletext) (2551378)

1.25 Emmerdale (r) (Teletext) (44640113)

1.55 A Country Practice (s) (96441674)

2.20 Vanessa: Vanessa Makeover (Teletext) (s) (18226755)

2.50 The Lady Killers (r) (Teletext) (5797910)

3.20 ITN News headlines (Teletext) (8282397)

3.25 London Today (Teletext) (8281668)

3.30 The Riddlers (3910484) **3.40 Wizadora** (s) (6188465) **3.50 Rupert the Bear: Birthday Special** (Part 1) (3914200) **4.05 Garfield and Friends** (8322026) **4.15 Fantomcat** (s) (1069465) **4.40 Woof!** (Teletext) (s) (1620755)

5.10 After 5 with Caron Keating. Michael Douglas talks about his role in *The American President.* (Teletext) (2663668)

5.40 ITN News and weather (Teletext) (953823)

5.55 Your Shout Viewers air their views (876281)

6.00 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (674)

6.30 London Tonight (Teletext) (246)

Chris and Rachel marry in secret (7.00pm)

7.00 Emmerdale (Teletext) (8945)

7.30 Peak Performance: What Makes Milo Fly? (Teletext) (s) (910)

8.00 The Bill. Loxton becomes the butt of jokes at Sun Hill after he sets off a smoke alarm in a night club. (Teletext) (1465)

8.30 Michael Barrymore's My Kind of People. Amateurs entertain. (Teletext) (s) (3200)

9.00 FILM: Tightrope (1984) starring Clint Eastwood. Exciting thriller with Eastwood as a policeman who has to confront his own pyscho-sexual nature when he hunts the killer of prostitutes. Includes some terrifying and disturbing scenes. Directed by Richard Tuggle. **Continues after the news.** (Teletext) (7736)

10.00 ITN News at Ten and weather (Teletext) (80718)

10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) (882484)

10.40 FILM: Tightrope continued (6700281)

11.45 Big City (s) (309842)

12.15am FILM: Steptoe and Son Ride Again (1973) starring Wilfrid Brambell, Harry H. Corbett and Diana Dors. Funny only for fans. Directed by Peter Sykes. (563359)

2.05am Shift (9720048)

3.00 The Beat (r) (s) (7700682) **3.55 The Album Show** (r) (s) (9590243)

4.45 Profile. The Rolling Stones. (r) (s) (79465408)

5.00 Vanessa (r) (Teletext) (s) (13156)

5.30 ITN Morning News (47576). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.30am Ulysses 31. Cartoon series (r) (33620)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (68804)

9.00 FILM: Under Capricorn (1949) starring Michael Wilding, Ingrid Bergman, Joseph Cotten and Margaret Leighton. A melodrama set in 19th-century Australia. Directed by Alfred Hitchcock (68571755)

11.10 Unsigned. A painter who loses his muse makes a contract with the devil (8777787)

11.30 Putting Art In its Place. Don Rankin's access trail for the Yorkshire Sculpture Park's physically and visually impaired visitors (r) (6945)

12.00 House To House. Political magazine (24571)

12.30pm Sesame Street with Maya Angelou (77804)

1.30 The Wonderful Wizard of Oz (r) (s) (36506587)

1.55 Carwash Love. A bored housewife finds passion in a car wash (15701674)

2.10 FILM: The Glass Mountain (1950, b/w) starring Michael Denison, Dulcie Gray and Valentina Cortese. A weepie directed by Henry Cass (353533)

4.00 Think Tank. Team quiz. (Teletext) (s) (939)

4.30 Fifteen To One. (Teletext) (s) (823)

5.00 Ricki Lake: My Mother Treats My Boyfriend Better Than Me. (Teletext) (s) (7327216) **5.45 Terrytoons** followed by **Murun Buchstansangur** (950736)

6.00 Home Improvement. American comedy series starring Tim Allen as the host of a television do-it-yourself advice show. (Teletext) (s) (216)

6.30 New Gamesmaster. Computer and video games magazine (s) (668)

7.00 Channel 4 News. (Teletext) (714113)

7.50 The Slot. Viewers' video soapbox (765281)

8.00 Hands Up. Education magazine series. (Teletext) (s) (9007)

8.30 Sophie's Meat Course: Lamb. Sophie Grigson, with master butcher Graham Portwine, shows how to bone, butterfly and trim lamb. (Teletext) (s) (1842)

9.00 Secret Lives: Baden-Powell — The Boy Man. (Teletext) (s) (5378)

Danny Aiello as the killer Jack Ruby (10.00pm)

10.00 FILM: Ruby (1992) starring Danny Aiello and Sherilyn Fenn. A drama about Jack Ruby, the night club owner who shot dead Lee Harvey Oswald. Directed by John Mackenzie. (Teletext) (s) (96940200)

12.05am Apache Goes Indian. After a short break, ragga star Apache Indian recommences his personal exploration of Bombay. (Teletext) (s) (3199866)

12.35 Dispatches (r) (Teletext) (7019427)

1.25 FILM: The Brain Machine (1955, b/w) starring Elizabeth Allan, Patrick Barr and Maxwell Reed. A B-movie British thriller written and directed by Ken Hughes (1146953)

2.55 Yo Yo Ma and the Kalahari Bushmen. The Chinese cellist travels to the Kalahari to experience the life of bushmen who have lived there for centuries and also to search for common musical grounds (r) (s) (5015779). Ends at **3.50**

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 12.55 Emmerdale (2551378) **1.25-1.55** Home and Away (44640113) **2.50-3.20** High Road (5797910) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (2663668) **6.30-7.00** Anglia News (246) **11.45** First Take (309842) **12.15am** Good Advice (76682) **12.45** Film. A Fighting Choice (413040) **2.30** Best of British Motorsport (4243779) **2.55** The Beat (5017137) **3.50** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (81104798) **4.15** Quiz Night (90593359) **4.40** Phenomena (32720953)

CENTRAL

As London except: 2.50-3.20 High Road (5797910) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (2663668) **6.25-7.00** Central News and Weather (863939) **11.45** Tales from the Crypt (309842) **3.55am** Jobfinder (7852427) **5.20** Asian Eye (1178576)

GRANADA

As London except: 12.55-1.25 Shortland Street (2551378) **1.25** Home and Away (89513465) **1.50** Vanessa (36411465) **2.20** The Lady Killers (18226755) **2.50-3.20** Emmerdale (5797910) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (2663668) **6.25-7.00** Granada Tonight (882938) **11.45-12.15am** Coach (309842) **4.45-5.00** Jobfinder (79465408)

HTV WEST

As London except: 12.55 Shortland Street (5885649) **1.20** Coronation Street (44641842) **2.50-3.20** Gardening Time (5797910) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (2663668) **6.30-7.00** HTV News (246) **11.45** Tales from the Crypt (309842) **4.45am** Jobfinder (79465408)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except: 9.55-10.00 HTV Wales News (4337674) **12.20pm-12.30** HTV Wales News and Weather (8718649) **2.50-3.20** Designed by Emanuel (5797910) **3.25-3.30** HTV Wales News (8281668) **6.30-7.00** Wales Tonight (246) **7.30-8.00** Wales This Week (910) **10.30-10.40** HTV Wales News and Weather (882484) **11.45** Peak Performance (309842)

MERIDIAN

As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Meridian News and Weather (4337674) **12.20pm-12.30** Meridian News and Weather (8718649) **12.55** Emmerdale (2551378) **1.25-1.55** Home and Away (44640113) **3.25-2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (5797910) **3.25-3.30** Meridian News and Weather (8281668) **5.37-5.40** **5.10** Home and Away (2663668) **5.37-5.40** Three Minutes - Crimestoppers (989945) **6.30-7.00** **6.00** Meridian Tonight (674) **6.30-7.00** Anything You Can Do (246) **10.30-10.40** Meridian News and Weather (882484) **11.40** Time Trax (452587) **12.45am** Film: A Fighting Choice (413040) **2.30** Best of British Motorsport (4243779) **2.55** The Beat (5017137) **3.50** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (81104798) **4.15** Quiz Night (90593359) **4.40** Phenomena (32720953) **5.00** Freescreen (13156)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Westcountry News (4337674) **12.20pm** Westcountry News (8727397) **12.25-12.30** My Story (8726668) **12.55** Emmerdale (2551378) **1.25** Home and Away (44640113) **1.55-2.20** The Young Doctors (96441674) **2.50-3.20** A Country Practice (5797910) **3.25-3.30** Westcountry News; Weather (8281668) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (2663668) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (59026) **10.30-10.40** Westcountry News; Weather (882484) **11.45** Short Story Cinema (309842) **4.45am** Jobfinder (79465408)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Calendar News and Weather (4337674) **12.20pm-12.30** Yorkshire: Calendar News and Weather / Bilsdale: Network North (8718649) **12.55** Emmerdale (2551378) **1.25-1.55** Home and Away (44640113) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (5797910) **3.25-3.30** Yorkshire: Calendar News / Bilsdale: Network North (8281668) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (2663668) **5.55** Calendar / Network North (142552) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (246) **10.30-10.40** Calendar News and Weather (882484) **11.45** Prisoner Cell Block H (811543) **12.40am** Film: Stand Up Virgin Soldiers (430717) **2.20** America's Top Ten (8786801) **2.50** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (4247595) **3.20** Film: Face the Music (8521427) **4.50** Jobfinder (8306589)

S4C

Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (68804) **9.00** Film: Under Capricorn (68571755) **11.10** Unsigned (8777787) **11.30** Putting Art In Its Place (6945) **12.00pm** House To House (24571) **12.30** The Pink Panther Show (54278842) **12.40** AAAHH!! Real Monsters! (5897484) **1.00** Slot Meithrin (81991) **1.30** Film: Come To The Stable (25249571) **3.15** Ricki Lake (2367216) **4.00** Think Tank (939) **4.30** The Real Holiday Show (823) **5.00** 5 Pump Uned 5 (3823) **5.30** Fifteen To One (303) **6.00** Newyddion (501465) **6.15** Heno (582668) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (439194) **7.25** Bacha Hi O ' Ma (154842) **8.00** Cyw Haul (9007) **8.30** Newyddion (1842) **9.00** Arle. Blwyddyn Eldrydd (5378) **10.00** Film: Oleanna Friends (188113) **11.45** Without Walls: Unpeeled (307484) **12.15am** Without Walls: J'Accuse The Enthusiastic Death Of Timothy Leary (74224) **12.45** The Last Europeans: Crossing Channels (754427)

SATELLITE

● For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday

SKY ONE

7.00am The DJ Kat Show (25587) **8.00** Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (49804) **8.30** Press Your Luck (44303) **9.00** Court TV (62755) **9.30** Oprah Winfrey (37303) **10.30** Concentration (68939) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (14007) **12.00** Jeopardy (42991) **12.30pm** Designing Women (91755) **1.00** The Waltons (89910) **2.00** Geraldo (81281) **3.00** Court TV (1484) **3.30** Oprah Winfrey (8768281) **4.20** Undun (1869668) **5.00** Star Trek (2736) **6.00** The Simpsons (6216) **6.30** Jeopardy (4668) **7.00** LAPD (3465) **7.30** M*A*S*H (3552) **8.00** Due South (26465) **9.00** The Commish (19129) **10.00** Star Trek (12216) **11.00** Law and Order (28200) **12.00** Late Show (8377779) **12.45am** The Untouchables (6715330) **1.30** Rachel Gunn (23971) **2.00** Hit Mix Long Play (7210021)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise (9190945) **10.30** ABC Nightline (59281) **1.30** CBS News (86434) **2.30** Parliament (65823) **3.30** Parliament (8674) **6.30** Tonight (25842) **8.30** Worldwide Report (754281) **11.30** CBS News (93571) **12.30pm** ABC News (34796) **1.30** Tonight with Adam Boulton Replay (84750) **2.30** Newsmaker (68601) **3.30** Parliament (70446) **4.30** CBS News (31156) **5.30-6.00** ABC News (99494)

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Showcase (54668) **8.00 Cleopatra (1963)** (4366820) **12.00 The Miracle Worker (1962)** (95484) **2.00pm Walk Like a Man (1987)** (30668) **4.00 An American Christmas Carol (1979)** (7668) **6.00 Meteor Man (1993)** (97416991) **7.40** US Top Ten (232692) **8.00 M Butterfly (1993)** (22649) **10.00 Joshua Tree (1993)** (719007) **11.45 Lifepod (1993)** (254397) **1.15am Secret Sins of the Father (1993)** (568205) **2.50 In The Line of Duty: Kidnapped (1994)** (4343175) **4.20-6.00 An American Christmas Carol (1979)** (342156)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm Angels with Dirty Faces (1938) (2910) **6.00 Summer Stock (1950)** (16026) **8.00 Haunted Honeymoon (1986)** (11571) **10.00 Red Sonja (1985)** (231804) **11.35 Torment (1944)** (291571) **1.20-3.10am Beneath the Valley of the Ultra Vixens (1979)** (421175)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am The McConnell Story (1955) (45910) **8.00 The Good, The Bad and Huckleberry Hound (1988)** (76303) **10.00 Bachelor Knight (1947)** (93113) **12.00 Paris Holiday (1958)** (93026) **2.00pm The Perils of Pauline (1947)** (21910) **4.00 The Good, The Bad and Huckleberry Hound (1988)** (8910) **6.00 Kidz in the Wood (1994)** (14874) **8.00 Look Who's Talking Now (1993)** (55649) **9.30 The Movie Show** (77129) **10.00 Avalanche (1994)** (889084) **11.35 The Red Shoe Diaries No 3: Another Woman's Lipstick (1993)** (381668) **1.10am Look Who's Talking Now (1993)** (581156) **2.50 Tainted Blood (1992)** (4341717) **4.20 Scooby-doo Meets the Boo Brothers** (340798)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Sky Movies Gold from 10pm to 4am.
6.00am Umbrella Tree (45613465) **6.30** Muppet Babies (33625804) **7.00** Winnie the Pooh (35488262) **7.30** Ducktales (35407397) **8.00** Chip 'n' Dale (29860194) **8.30** Wonderland (29889465) **9.00** Fraggle Rock (29956945) **9.30** Pooh Corner (63608649) **10.00** Dumbo (33649484) **10.30** Quack Attack (29952129) **11.00** Disney (36589945) **12.00** Sinbad (29863281) **12.30pm** The Torkelsons (63602465) **1.00** Faerie Tale Theatre (63690620) **2.00** Wonderland (70436755) **2.30** Under the Umbrella Tree (62424113) **3.00** Fraggle Rock (70415262) **3.30** Winnie the Pooh (62509858) **4.00** Quack Attack (62415465) **4.30** Ducktales (62411649) **5.00** Chip 'n' Dale (70427007) **5.30** Danger Bay (62508129) **6.00** Tarzan (62425842) **6.30** Dinosaurs (62416194) **7.00** FILM. Muppet Christmas Carol (53880571) **8.25** Winnie the Pooh and Christmas Too (97016736) **9.10-10.00** Charlton Heston (88844692)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Equestrianism (36007) **8.30** Euroski (62194) **9.00** Skiing (59874) **9.30** Skiing (16571) **11.00** Truck Racing (63397) **12.00** Eurofun (66910) **12.30pm** Snowboarding (86262) **1.00** Snooker (30571) **3.00** Snooker (2378) **3.30** Offroad (99113) **4.30** Superbike (54755) **5.30** Alpine Skiing (43113) **6.30** News (2674) **7.00** Snooker (55378) **9.00** Football (76484) **11.00** Golf (44262) **12.00-12.30am** Eurosport News (37137)

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Sports Centre (46674) **7.30** Racing News (52281) **8.00** Wrestling (82842) **9.00** Aerobics (68378) **9.30** Basketball (694200) **12.00** Aerobics (71842) **12.30pm** American Sports (46533) **1.30** Rugby (90465) **2.00** Pool (663465) **5.00** Wrestling (1262) **6.00** Sky Sports Centre (6886) **6.30** Rugby Union (1378) **7.00** Tight Lines (704216) **7.55** Sports Centre (946194) **8.00** Ice Warriors (55945) **10.00** Sports Centre (72571) **10.30** Tight Lines (49823) **11.30** Rugby (19587) **12.30am** Ice Warriors (51040) **2.30-3.00** Sports Centre (97330)

George Burns, Walter Matthau *The Sunshine Boys* (TNT, 9pm)

SKY SPORTS 2

7.00pm Rugby (6750991) **8.00** Pool (5618281) **11.00** Netbusters (9125115) **12.00** Skating (3688779) **12.30-1.00am** Rugby (8675798)

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Our Century (1862303) **5.00** Alive (4650874) **6.00-7.00** Biography (2632216)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

1.00am Swamp Thing (1698885) **1.30** Ray Bradbury Theatre (8910682) **2.00** FILM: The Quatermass Experiment (3121243) **3.30-4.00** Ray Bradbury Theatre (7321953)

TLC

9.00am Wild at Heart (9481303) **9.30** Simply Delicious (1234484) **10.00** Vet's Life (6585484) **10.30** Park High (9487587) **11.00** Only Human (1630755) **12.00** General Practice (9305939) **12.30pm** Jimmy's (1238200) **1.00** Delicious (1834571) **1.30** Wild at Heart (1237571) **2.00** Will it Hurt? (7219378) **2.30** Life is for Living (8938858) **3.00** Animal Magnetism (7221113) **3.30-4.00** Vet's Life (8933303)

UK GOLD

7.00am Angels (1917858) **7.30** Neighbours (1823465) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (9397910) **8.30** EastEnders (9396281) **9.00** The Bill (9387533) **9.30** The Sullivans (1236842) **10.00** All Creatures Great and Small (1829649) **11.00** Dallas (1832113) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (9307397) **12.30pm** Neighbours (1310858) **1.00** EastEnders (1916129) **1.30** The Bill (1319129) **2.00** The Sullivans (62193151) **2.25** Are You Being Served? (3327113) **3.00** Angels (7223571) **3.30** Eldorado (8839533) **4.00** Casualty (95164262) **5.05** Larry Grayson's Generation Game (41481552) **6.15** Kenny's Comic Cuts (6520868) **6.25** EastEnders (2346216) **7.00** Eldorado (7215552) **7.30** Taxi (8848281) **8.00** George and Mildred (7224200) **8.30** What A Carry On! (7210007) **9.00** Minder (5745216) **10.00** The Bill (6593129) **10.35** Classic Sport (1244668) **11.35** KYTV (2708552) **12.15am** Dr Who (8330069) **12.45** FILM: As Time Goes By (3772205) **2.20** Shopping (60895040)

TCC

6.00am Casper (40755) **7.00** Pink Panther (45197) **7.30** Ready or Not (14842) **8.00** Valley High (14571) **8.30** Casper **8.45** Dinobabies (8532216) **9.00** Tiny TCC (8110026) **12.30pm** Tiny TCC (37262) **2.30** Happily Ever After (3755) **3.00** Sonic (1668) **3.30** Panther (8200) **4.00** California (4007) **4.30-5.00** Valley High (3991)

NICKELODEON

6.00am Blue (16262) **6.30** Count Duckula (31200) **7.00** Batfink (1820910) **7.05** Teenage Turtles (3868649) **7.45** Rugrats (950945) **8.15** Doug (856649) **8.45** Rocko (5748129) **9.00** Alvin (59620) **9.30** Pee-Wee (88620) **10.00** Banana Sandwich (56007) **11.00** Children's BBC (69571) **12.00** Rocko (79484) **12.30pm** Aaahh!!! Real Monsters (99736) **1.00** Ship To Shore (43587) **1.30** Mighty Max (98007) **2.00** Speed Racer (2945) **2.30** Galaxy High (7939) **3.00** Count Duckula (8552) **3.30** Pet Shop (2484) **4.00** Teenage Turtles (1991) **4.30** Rugrats (3303) **5.00** Clarissa (1787) **5.30** Fish and Chips (1755) **6.00** Doug (8668) **6.30** Are You Afraid? (2620) **7.00** Fish and Chips (1543) **7.30-8.00** Nancy Drew (8804)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Nature (8849910) **4.30** Wild (8845194) **5.00** Blue Revolution (7212465) **6.00** Invention (8939587) **6.30** Beyond 2000 (1784465) **7.30** Space Rendezvous (8846823) **8.00** Weather (7222842) **8.30** Ultra Science (7218649) **9.00** Subs! Blood and Honour (1284991) **9.30** Science Detectives (1225736) **10.00** Subs! Submarines (5746945) **11.00** Top Marques (1298736) **11.30-12.00** Special Forces (6591668)

BRAVO

12.00 FILM: The Hideous Sun Demon (7812277) **1.30pm** Honey West (1231397) **2.00** Danger Man (6590939) **3.00** Scotland Yard (7225939) **3.30** Man From Interpol (8937129) **4.00** FILM: Two Way Stretch (7229755) **6.00** Scotland Yard (8853113) **6.30** UFO (1771991) **7.30** The Protectors (8840649) **8.00** Space 1999 (5647620) **9.00** The Prisoner (5867484) **10.00-12.00** FILM: Tommy (1202387)

PARAMOUNT

8.00pm Entertainment (9281) **8.30** I Love Lucy (1216) **9.00** Madame's Place (40571) **9.30** Laverne and Shirley (80200) **10.00** Entertainment **10.30** Kids in the Hall (56533) **11.00** Sledgehammer (25216) **11.30** Politically Incorrect (28736) **12.00** Entertainment (33311) **12.30am** I Love Lucy (17840) **1.00** Madame's Place (27446) **1.30** Laverne and Shirley (55717) **2.00** Entertainment **2.30** Kids in the Hall (95972) **3.00** Sledgehammer (91822) **3.30-4.00** PC (86224)

UK LIVING

6.00am Agony Hour (7676571) **7.00** Magazine (6484113) **9.00** The Treatment (2386668) **9.30** Kate and Allie (5452620) **10.00** Hearts of Gold (1146858) **10.50** Entertainment **11.00** The Young and the Restless (3237736) **11.55** Food and Drink (6380668) **12.30pm** Brookside (5985858) **1.05** Kilroy (1358465) **2.00** Agony Hour (4416129) **3.00** Living Magazine (4083533) **4.00** Infatuation UK (8722262) **4.30** Crosswits (7876026) **5.05** Joker's Wild (59680194) **5.30** Bewitched (8742026) **6.00** Esther (8749939) **6.30** Brookside (6127571) **7.05** Jerry Springer (7495113) **8.00** The Young and the Restless (4632533) **9.00** FILM: Criminal Behavior (4635620) **11.00-12.00** Dangerous Women (6451649)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm The Wonder Years (6113) **5.30** Tintin (7571) **6.00** Batman (4484) **6.30** Catchphrase (5736) **7.00** Through the Keyhole (3649) **7.30** My Two Dads (4620) **8.00** The Darling Buds of May (93129) **9.00** Ruth Rendell Mysteries (61115) **10.00** All Clued Up (98587) **10.30** Neon Rider (76991) **11.30** Batman (62991) **12.00** The Adventures of Tintin (79137) **12.30am** Concentration (34576) **1.00** Zorro (56972) **1.30** Rhoda (99175) **2.00** Neon Rider (14156) **3.00** Rhoda (43408) **3.30** Zorro (20682) **4.00** The Wonder Years (41175) **4.30-5.00** The Black Stallion (44137)

MTV

6.30am The Grind (84113) **7.00** 3 from 1 (8632113) **7.15** Awake (4345674) **8.00** Videos (598552) **10.30** Janet Jackson (24656) **11.00** Soul (92620) **12.00** Greatest Hits (34823) **1.00pm** Non-Stop (8554465) **2.15** 3 from 1 (90335842) **2.30** Sports (5113) **3.00** Cinematic (8131587) **3.15** Hanging Out (7491113) **4.00** News **4.15** Hanging Out (2758804) **4.30** Dial MTV (2649) **5.00** Dance Chart (8571) **5.30** Hanging Out/Dance (83939) **7.00** Greatest Hits (13939) **8.00** Most Wanted (28533) **9.30** Beavis and Butthead (35552) **10.00** News **10.15** Cinematic **10.30** Aeon Flux (85649) **11.30** The End? (68823) **12.30am** Videos (9005040)

VH-1

7.00am Power Breakfast (8971277) **9.00** Café (1503129) **12.00** Heart and Soul (2532262) **1.00pm** Vinyl (2541910) **2.00** Fairport Convention (9413804) **3.00** Into the Music (4362610) **6.00** Michael Jackson (2634674) **7.00** VH-1 for You (8769649) **8.00** Wednesday Review (6778397) **9.00** Go-Gos (6758533) **10.00** Vinyl (6751620) **11.00** The Bridge (8932804) **1.00am** Fairport Convention (1728595) **2.00** Dawn Patrol

ZEE TV

7.00am Asian Morning (11220303) **8.30** Yule Love Stories (52341674) **9.00** Tamil Film (76177668) **12.00** Dekh Bhai Dekh (58741610) **12.30pm** India Show (62571026) **1.00** FILM: Zara Si Zindagi (25550842) **4.00** Top Ten (44697910) **5.00** Zee Zone (59788620) **5.30** Punjabi Folk (21700484) **6.00** Dillagi (21707397) **6.30** Zee and U (21798649) **7.00** Highlife (59708484) **7.30** Galaxzee (21787533) **8.00** News (59784804) **8.30** Andaz (59703939) **9.00** Urdu Serial: Kachey Dhaagey (89513674) **10.00** Horror Show (43896769) **10.30** Commander (92547277) **11.00** Your Zindagi (44605939) **11.30-12.00** Krishna (46090262)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Cartoons 5am to 7pm, then TNT films.
7.00pm The Prisoner of Zenda (1952) (36406668) **9.00 The Sunshine Boys (1975)** (68575378) **11.00 The Conquering Power (1921)** (16022484) **12.35 Le Bossu (1944)** (53022088) **2.35-5.00 La Tete Contre les Murs (1958)** (31581576)

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RUGBY UNION 42
DALLAGLIO REVELS
IN ROLE OF
THE PROFESSIONAL

SPORT

WINDSURFING 46
HAWKINS RULES
WAVES AT
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

THURSDAY DECEMBER 7 1995

Stand-off half teams up with Northampton colleague as England ring changes

Grayson given key role for Samoa match

By David Hands, rugby correspondent

PAUL GRAYSON, a convert from football six years ago, was last night offered the hottest spot in English rugby union: the role of stand-off half in the side to play Western Samoa at Twickenham on Saturday week, alongside his colleague from Northampton, Matthew Dawson.

The half backs, both of them new caps, are among six changes (two positional) from the team beaten by South Africa last month and represent a sea change in the reflections of the England selectors. Even before his successful advent at full back last year, Mike Catt was perceived as the long-term successor to Rob Andrew, while only this season Jack Rowell pondered the need for a specialist at open-side flanker.

Now the England manager has neither. Catt reverts to full back at the expense of Jonathan Callard and another Bath player, Andy Robinson, feels the draught at No 7. His place goes to Lawrence Dallaglio, a successful replacement for Tim Rodber when winning his first cap against the South Africans but more accustomed to the blind-side flanker or No 8 role.

No final chance has been offered to the inconsistent Kyran Bracken. Bristol's scrum half gives way to Dawson and England take the plunge the British Isles took two years ago in switching Jason Leonard to tight-head prop, an experiment they tried against Italy during the World Cup. Leonard displaces Victor Ubogu and Graham Rowntree makes his first full appearance at Twickenham, though this will be his fourth cap.

"Dawson was already in our team as the next scrum half," Rowell said, after his management colleagues, Les Cusworth and John Elliott, had cast an eye over the North's aspirants during the 34-8 win over the Samoans at Huddersfield on Tuesday night. "But the choice of Grayson was swung by his display for the Midlands [against the Samoans at Leicester on Saturday]. We have been gasping for someone to come through at stand-off and Grayson did so with aplomb.

"Grayson will be the goal-kicker. He played well for the A team when they beat Australia A in the Test last June. He looks more mature this season. He has succeeded with the winning Northampton team and that is in part thanks to Ian McGeechan, the coach there. We want to see how this combination works, but it is not an experiment," he said.

Grayson and Dawson have played outstanding football all season for Northampton, nurtured by McGeechan, but that has not been difficult, so great has been the Saints' domination of the second division.

Invited to step up for a higher examination, they passed with flying colours. For Grayson, in particular, the news yesterday prior to England training at Marlow will have been sweet indeed.

His has been a gradual ascent, from the time of his first appearance at Twickenham in Lancashire colours five years ago. At 24, the older of the two halves by 17 months, he has had to learn the art of stand-off play, initially with Preston Grasshoppers, for whom he proved to be a good kicker, out of hand and off the ground, and then with ambitious Northampton.

He was offered further responsibility as captain in several of England A's games in Australia last summer when he impressed Peter Rossborough, the tour manager, with his attitude and has acquired the knack of managing a game which Catt, for all his footballing vision, has yet to learn. Now Grayson must do it at the highest level with the promise — or threat — of a meeting with France in Paris in January to come and the added responsibility of goal kicking upon his shoulders.

Happily, he and Dawson complement each other, Grayson the less obvious player, Dawson the extrovert. From the moment Northampton plucked him from High Wycombe, Dawson has hinted at England potential. He won five schoolboy caps and erupted onto the senior scene with a devastating break, good hands and a neat box kick.

What he lacked was judgement, and a series of injuries in 1994 hindered his development; this season, he has matured and last Saturday he tormented the Samoans to distraction, setting up Rodber for one try and scoring another himself.

Speaking about the decision to include Rowntree, Rowell said: "Rowntree deserves his chance. The Leonard-and-Ubogu vote went to the margin and was on the nod but Rowntree is in on merit."

Once the decision was made to introduce the two Northampton players, Callard's fate was sealed, since England were unlikely to dispense with Catt's broken-play running entirely. He has more freedom at full back, where fewer instant decisions need to be made, though if England's back play is to be effective, Dallaglio has to pick up the open side's lines of running on the hoof.

This is turning into a remarkable season for the 23-year-old Dallaglio: he has taken over as captain of Wasps; his utility value found him a place among the English replacements; and now he will have his first full cap.

At 6ft 4in and more than 16 stone, he has the power and speed England seek on the flank. Now he must show he has the know-how ingrained in specialists such as Robinson and Neil Back.

Discussing Dallaglio, Rowell said: "In the recent France versus New Zealand series we saw power and size dominating at No 7. Earlier, we visualised Dallaglio as a blind-side flanker, but he is adaptable and will be playing open-side for Wasps."

Mark Regan, England's hooker, faces a Gloucestershire disciplinary committee on Tuesday after receiving two yellow cards. If the cautions are upheld, Regan is likely to receive a two-week suspension, in which case Graham Dawe, 36, would return for only his sixth cap in nine seasons.

Dawson, left, and Grayson, England's new half-back combination, who will face Western Samoa at Twickenham on Saturday week

ENGLAND TEAM

M J Catt (Bath)
D P Hopley (Wasps)
W D C Carling (Harlequins, captain)
J C Guscott (Bath)
R Underwood (Leicester/RAF)
P J Grayson (Northampton)
M J S Dawson (Northampton)
G C Rowntree (Leicester)
M P Regan (Bristol)
J Leonard (Harlequins)
T A K Rodber (Northampton/Army)
M O Johnson (Leicester)
M C Bayfield (Northampton)
B B Clarke (Bath)
L B N Dallaglio (Wasps)

REPLACEMENTS: J E B Callard (Bath), P R de Glanville (Bath), K P P Bracken (Bristol), V E Ubogu (Bath), R A Robinson (Bath), R G R Dawe (Bath).

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

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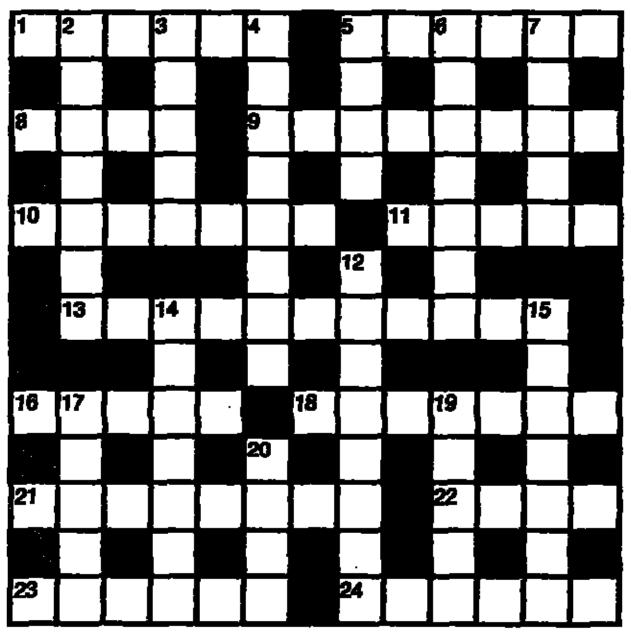

ACROSS
- 1 Sustain, support (6)
- 5 Chinese karate (4,2)
- 8 Cloth roll; run for it (4)
- 9 Wellington 1815 victory (8)
- 10 Non-attendance (7)
- 11 Stale-smelling (5)
- 13 Our species (4,7)
- 16 Make embarrassed (5)
- 18 Wariness; a go-slow (7)
- 21 Rend, tear (8)
- 22 Sudden attack (4)
- 23 Implacable, fatal (6)
- 24 Prickly feeling (6)

DOWN
- 2 Lord High Everything Else (Mikado) (4-3)
- 3 Eccentric, improper (5)
- 4 Miserable (8)
- 5 Bird; child's toy (4)
- 6 Upbringing (7)
- 7 Suggest (idea); milkman's cart (5)
- 12 Clearly visible (8)
- 14 Bad action (7)
- 15 Garden time-teller (7)
- 17 Censure (5)
- 19 Protective garment (5)
- 20 Unclear; shimmering (4)

PRIZES:
THE WINNER will receive a return ticket travelling economy class to anywhere on British Midland's domestic or international network.
THE RUNNER-UP will receive a return ticket to anywhere on British Midland's domestic network. British Midland offers an extensive range of departure and destination points throughout the UK as well as Europe. As the UKs second largest scheduled service airline and Heathrows second biggest user, it operates a fleet of 35 aircraft on over 1200 flights per week throughout the UK and Europe.
All flights are subject to availability.

British Midland

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Name/Address ....

....

SOLUTION TO No 645
ACROSS: 1 Zigzag 4 Speech 8 Deal 9 Spirited 10 Auditoria 13 Sable 15 Indus 16 Aaron 18 Kerbstone 21 Crevasse 22 Wind 23 Trunks 24 Kruger
DOWN: 1 Zodiac 2 Grandeur 3 Gesso 5 Parnassus 6 Eats 7 Huddle 11 Think-tank 12 Radar 14 Becoming 16 Avocet 17 Leader 19 Bleak 20 Beau

England seek home returns

By Colin McQuillan

ENGLAND's world champion team, which has gathered again in Bombay determined to break recent Australian domination of the lucrative Mahindra Challenge, declared yesterday that they would all return to England to contest the British national championship, scheduled for Edgbaston Priory in Birmingham early in January.

Most of the country's leading men missed the last national championship when it was held without sponsorship at the Abbeydale Club in Sheffield and won by Stephen Meads, the Berkshire player.

"But the Squash Rackets Association seems to have worked hard this year to put together a deal between themselves, QM Rackets and Edgbaston Priory to provide a prize fund of £16,000," England's first-string player, Simon Parke, said in Bombay yesterday.

"That gives a first prize of £2,000 for the men and £1,500 for the women which is worth competing for. You have to give them credit for trying hard on behalf of the professionals who simply could not afford to compete last year," he added.

The rest of the successful England team that defeated Pakistan in the world team championship final in Cairo last month to take the title for the first time confirmed their interest in playing also at Edgbaston Priory.

Parke plays Ahmed Faizy, of Egypt, in the Mahindra Challenge first round today while Del Harris, the England second string, faces Derek Ryan, of Ireland. The England captain, Chris Walker, plays another Egyptian, Omar El Borolossy, and Mark Chaloner plays Federico Usandizaga, the Argentina player.

Stephen Meads, who might not defend the British title in favour of pursuing world tour points in the United States, today faces Hansi Wiens, of Germany, while the Scottish champion, Peter Nicol, begins his pursuit of the Mahindra title against the world junior champion, Ahmed Barada, of Egypt.

Second chance for Weir

PAUL Weir, the Scottish boxer who lost his World Boxing Organization (WBO) junior flyweight championship to Jacob "Baby Jake" Matlala last month in Glasgow, will have a chance to reclaim the title in the new year.

The WBO, meeting in Atlanta, ordered the re-match — likely to be in late February or early March in Johannesburg — after a controversial finish to the bout on November 18. Tommy Gilmour, Weir's manager, requested the re-match after he thought the referee had been wrong to stop the bout in the fifth round after an clash of heads opened a cut above Weir's left eye.

Ferguson cleared to return for Everton

By Peter Ball

THE eager efforts of Everton to get Duncan Ferguson, their Scotland international forward, back into action bore fruit yesterday. Lord Prosser agreed, at the Court of Session in Edinburgh, to the club's appeal for a judicial review of the player's 12-match suspension by the Scottish Football Association (SFA) for head-butting John McStay, of Raith Rovers.

The review should take place early in the new year, leaving Ferguson, who has already missed five games under the ban, free to play in the meantime. The club's confidence at the outcome of the appeal was such that he starts tonight, in a hastily arranged reserve match with Newcastle United.

"He's desperate to get back now, to repay the support he has received recently from the fans and the club," Joe Royle, the Everton manager, said yesterday.

The match tonight will be Ferguson's first at any level since August. Since then, a hernia operation and a spell in Barlinnie jail for the head-butting incident, carried out while playing for Rangers, have prevented him playing any competitive football.

If he comes through the game tonight satisfactorily, he is likely to be involved in Everton's FA Carling Premiership match on Monday against West Ham United, if only as a substitute. Such is the player's popularity that even that could turn the game into a sell-out. Everton are expecting 10,000 to turn up tonight to greet the returning striker.

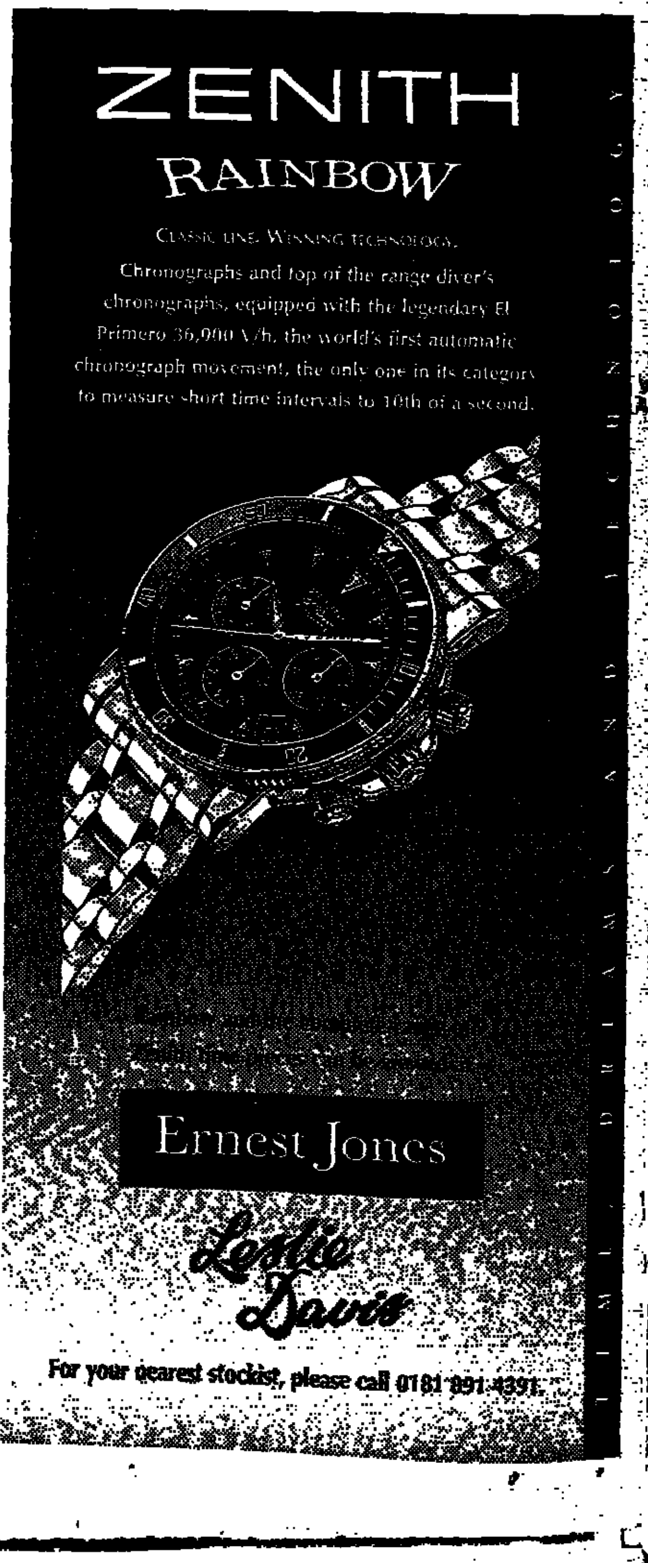
"Of course the obvious danger is that people will expect too much from him," Royle said. "It won't be easy."

Everton's case rested on two planks — a disagreement over the meaning of "additional" in the SFA rulebook, as in their right to impose additional punishments for offences; and the more simple belief that the player should not be punished for the same offence twice, by both the courts and the SFA.

Ferguson: appeal

Paul Gascoigne, the England international midfield player, will not be prosecuted over an on-field incident at a Bell's Scottish League premier division match between his club, Rangers, and Aberdeen last month. The Procurator Fiscal for Glasgow said last night that he had considered a police report on the match and had decided "to take no proceedings against any person on this occasion".

His statement did not name the players involved or how many had figured in the police investigation. But Gascoigne, along with his Rangers team-mates, John Brown and Alan McLaren, and Billy Dodds, of Aberdeen, are believed to have been involved in the police investigation.



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